

JOURNAL  
OF THE  
CEYLON BRANCH  
OF THE  
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY,  
1919.

VOLUME XXVIII.  
No. 72.—Parts I, II, III. and IV.

PAPERS.

NOTES ON SOME OF THE AUTHORITIES FOR THE HISTORY OF THE BRITISH  
IN CEYLON, 1795-1805.

NÁGADÍPA AND BUDDHIST REMAINS IN JAFFNA.

EXTRACTS RELATING TO CEYLON FROM THE DAG-REGISTER, BATAVIA,  
No. 1673.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

A SINHALESE EMBASSY TO EGYPT.

ROBERT ANDREWS.

A PROBABLE ORIGIN OF THE NAME KUSHTHARÁJAGALA.

SINHALESE OCCUPATION OF THE JAFFNA PENINSULA.

The design of the Society is to institute and promote inquiries  
into the History, Religions, Languages, Literature, Arts  
Sciences, and Social Condition of the present and  
former Inhabitants of the Island of Ceylon.

COLOMBO:

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JOURNAL  
OF THE  
ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY  
CEYLON BRANCH

GENERAL MEETING

*Colombo Museum, February 20, 1919*

Present :

Sir Ponnambalam Arunáhalam, Kt., M.A.,  
President, in the Chair.

Dr. P. E. Pieris, Litt. D., C.C.S., Vice-President.

Mr. M. T. de S. Amarasekara, L.L.B.	Mr. Herod Gunaratne.
„ R. G. Anthonisz.	„ P. T. P. Gunawardhana, Mudaliyar.
„ W. E. Bastian.	„ W. F. Gunawardhana.
„ B. Chas. Cooray, Muhan- diram.	Dr. C. A. Hewavitarana, M.D.
„ A. de Souza.	Mr. O. A. A. Jayasekara.
„ F. de Zoysa.	Dr. A. Nell, M.R.C.S.
„ P. E. S. Dharmasekara.	„ S. C. Paul, M.D.
„ U. B. Dolapihilla.	Mr. T. A. A. Raheem.
Dr. A. S. P. Fernando.	„ T. B. Russell, M.A., C.C.S.
Mr. C. H. Z. Fernando, B.A., L.L.B.	„ John M. Senaveratne.
„ W. M. Fernando.	„ G. W. Sturgess, M.R.C.V.S.
	„ F. A. Tisseverasingha.
	„ S. Vythenathan, Mudaliyar.
	„ S. H. Wadia, B.A., C.C.S.
Mr. C. H. Collins, B.A., C.C.S.	} Honorary Secretaries.
„ Gerard A. Joseph, C.C.S.	

*Business :*

1. The minutes of the last General Meeting held on December 13th, 1918, were read and confirmed.
2. Mr. Joseph announced that the fittings of the treasure chest of the last King of Kandy were laid out for inspection.
3. Dr. S. C. Paul, M.D., F.R.C.S., then read a paper on the overlordship of Ceylon in the 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries. It is proposed to publish this paper in a later issue of the Journal.



## COUNCIL MEETING

Colombo Museum, March 21, 1919

## Present:

Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam, Kt., M.A.,  
President, in the Chair.

Dr. P. E. Pieris, Litt. D., C.C.S., Vice-President.

Mr. Simon de Silva, J.P., Gate Mudaliyar.	Mr. W. F. Gunawardhana, Mudaliyar.
„ W. A. de Silva, J.P.	Dr. C. A. Hewavitarana.
„ A. Mendis Gunasekara, Mudaliyar.	Mr. C. W. Horsfall. Dr. A. Nell, M.R.C.S.

Mr. C. H. Collins, B.A., C.C.S.	} Honorary Secretaries.
„ Gerard A. Joseph, C.C.S.	

## Business:

1. The minutes of the last Council Meeting held on the 5th December, 1919, were read and confirmed.

2. The draft Annual Report for 1918 was discussed and approved.

3. It was decided that the Annual General Meeting be held on the 31st March, 1919.

4. It was resolved that the Government be asked to buy 50 copies of the Maldivian Linguistic Studies at Rs. 7.50 a copy and that a presentation copy be sent to the Sultan of the Maldives through Mr. Didi and that he be asked kindly to ascertain if the Maldivian Government will purchase any copies.

5. It was resolved that the Government be asked to give the Society its usual annual grant with effect from 1st October, 1919, and further, that in view of the present general high level of prices the Government be asked to increase the grant by Rs. 500.

6. The question of the translation and publication of the Chinese References, to which Government offered a contribution before the war, was discussed, and it was decided that the matter should stand over for the present.

7. The question of Office-Bearers for 1919 was considered and certain proposals were agreed to be put before the Annual General Meeting.

8. The following were elected members of the Society:—

(a) Frederick Richard Senanayaka, B.A., M.M.C.: recommended by	} C. H. Collins. Gerard A. Joseph.
(b) George E. Harding: recommended by	
(c) V. M. Muttukumaru: recommended by	} Leigh Smith. Gerard A. Joseph.
(d) Peter Mortimer: recommended by	
(e) Medagama Gunaratna, Thero.: recommended by	} F. A. Tisseverasingha. K. Balasingham.

(f) Ponnaidhu Felix Fernando: recommended by	} K. Balasingham. C. H. Z. Fernando.
(g) R. L. Spittel, F.R.C.S., L.M.S.: recommended by	
(h) H. R. Gunaratne: recommended by	} A. Nell. Gerard A. Joseph. S. W. K. Wipulasenasabha. N. K. S. Bharatinda.
(i) Welipatanwila Sri Deepankara Sthavira: recommended by	
(j) T. R. Mitchell: recommended by	} W. M. Fernando. A. de S. Kankaratne. Andreas Nell. W. A. Cave.
(k) William Wadsworth: recommended by	
(l) Samuel Jebaratnam Christian Kadirgamar: recommended by	} S. C. Paul. A. Nell. Andreas Nell. K. Balasingham.
(m) Simon Richard de Fonseka, (jr.): recommended by	
(n) Basil Walter Cuthbert Leefe: recommended by	} C. H. Collins. Gerard A. Joseph. Gerard A. Joseph. C. H. Collins.
(o) Benedict Solomon Mendis: recommended by	
(p) Dias Dharmadasa Senanayaka Mutukumarana: recommended by	} A. S. Beaty. K. W. Atukorala. F. D. Jayasingha D. D. C. Mutucumarana.
(q) Adolphus Simon Peter Fernando: recommended by	
(r) Martinus P. Siriwardhana: recommended by	} C. A. Hewavitarana. Gerard A. Joseph. W. F. Gunawardhana. J. J. de Mel.
(s) W. Somalokatissa Sthavira: recommended by	
(t) Francis T. Senaveratne: recommended by	} S. W. K. Wipulasenasabha. R. Dhiralankara. B. Horsburgh. E. B. Denham.

9. A letter dated 12th December, 1918, from Mr. F. Lewis, with regard to his paper on "Monastical and Sacred Trees in Ceylon" was read.

10. A letter dated 9th January, 1919, from the Government Agent, N.C.P., re the column dug up near the Abhayagiri Dagoba, in which he stated that the column had been labelled, was laid on the table.

11. A proposal from Dr. A. Nell, suggesting that for all future resident members subscription be Rs. 15 per annum, and entrance fee Rs. 10, was considered and it was decided that the matter do stand over for future consideration.

12. It was resolved that the congratulation of the Council be conveyed to its Vice-Patron, the Hon'ble Mr. R. E. Stubbs, C.M.G., on his appointment as Governor of Hong Kong and that he be thanked for the interest he had taken in promoting the welfare of the Society.

13. A proposal by Dr. A. Nell, suggesting that a sub-Committee be appointed to collect notes, information from residents, copies of drawings, sketches, and photographs and maps regarding Colombo in the 18th and 19th centuries was considered, and it was resolved that a sub-Committee consisting of Dr. A. Nell, Mr. R. G. Anthonisz, Dr. C. A. Hewavitarana, and Mr. Gerard A. Joseph be appointed to go into the matter.



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Colombo Museum, March 31st, 1919.

Present:

The Hon'ble Mr. R. E. Stubbs, C.M.G.,  
Vice-Patron, in the Chair.

Sir Ponnambalam Arunáhalam, Kt., M.A., President.

Sir J. T. Broom, Kt.

Mr. D. Buddhadasa.

" E. B. Denham, B.A., C.C.S.

The Ven'ble Mr. F. H. de  
Winton.

Mr. W. M. Fernando.

Mr. J. G. C. Mendis, M.A.

Dr. S. C. Paul, M.D.

Mr. W. Samarasinghe.

" N. D. A. S. Wijeyesinha.

Mr. C. H. Collins, B.A., C.C.S. } Honorary  
" Gerard A. Joseph, C.C.S. } Secretaries.*Business:*

1. The minutes of the last General Meeting held on the 20th February, 1919, were read and confirmed.

2. Mr. Gerard A. Joseph read the Annual Report, of which the following is a summary:—

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1918.

The Council of the Ceylon Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society have the honour to submit their Report for the year 1918.

The year which is now brought under review is the fifth and, fortunately, the last "War" year. It has been the endeavour of the Council to continue the activities of the Society as far as possible throughout the war, and the Council hope this object has been realised to a very considerable extent, as the following report will show, during the year 1918. On the whole the Society has prospered except in regard to finances, a matter that will be dealt with later on. Now that hostilities have ceased and peace is in sight, a forward policy should be adopted and every endeavour used to stimulate interest in the various matters, inquiries into which it is the aim and design of the Society to promote.

In this connection the Council congratulates itself on having secured Sir W. H. Manning as Patron of the Society. His Excellency has, by accepting this office and by presiding at the General Meeting held in December, shown his interest in the Society's work, and this is a sure sign that the cordial relationship, which has always existed between the Society and the Government in the past and which has been productive of so much that is of value to the country, will be continued and become even more marked in future.

## MEETINGS AND PAPERS.

Four General Meetings and four Council Meetings were held during the year.

## PUBLICATIONS.

One of the most important features of the year's work has been the printing of an English translation of Geiger's *Maldivian*

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Linguistic Studies. The translation from the German was made by Mrs. Willis and the work was edited by Mr. H. C. P. Bell, who has enriched it with three most useful appendices, and a number of illustrations. The printing was done at the Government Press. The cordial thanks of the Society are due to Mrs. Willis and to Mr. Bell for this most interesting, useful and important work.

Journal XXIV., No. 68, Part ii. and Journal Vol. XXVI., No. 70, Parts ii., iii., and iv. were issued during the year.

## MEMBERS.

The Society has now on its roll 359 members; of these 9 are Honorary Members and 42 are Life Members.

## DEATHS.

The Council have to record with regret the deaths of His Excellency Sir John Anderson, Patron of the Society, Messrs. D. S. S. Mahanama, V. J. Tambipillai, Rev. Father J. Pahanuney and Mr. F. J. de Saram.

The death of His Excellency Sir John Anderson was a serious loss both to the Society and to the Island. The Annual Meeting of the Society, which had been fixed for the 22nd March, was postponed, as he was then seriously ill. Sir John Anderson died on the 24th March. A special meeting of the Council was held on the 27th March when the following resolution was passed: "That the Council of the Society do place on record the grief of this Society on the death of its Patron, His Excellency Sir John Anderson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., L.L.D., and express to Captain and Mrs. Anderson and the other members of his family their deep sympathy with them in their bereavement."

## COUNCIL.

Under Rule 20, Mr. C. W. Horsfall and Dr. J. Pearson retired by seniority and the Hon'ble Mr. K. Balasingham and Mr. R. W. Byrde by least attendance and also under Rule 18 Mr. C. Hartley, the Senior Vice-President, retired by longest continuous service. The three vacancies on the Council were filled by Mr. C. W. Horsfall, Gate Mudaliyar Simon de Silva and Dr. C. A. Hevavitarana and the vacancy as Vice-President by Sir Anton Bertram.

## ARCHAEOLOGY.

There is little to report under this head as, owing to the reasons given in the statements for the past few years, the Government has been able to do little more than was necessary for the general conservation of those objects of archaeological interest that had been already cleared and restored.

The Council of this Society have learnt with pleasure however, that the Government took steps, almost immediately on the cessation of hostilities, for the appointment of an Archaeological Commissioner in succession to the late Mr. Ayrtton. The post is by no means an easy one to fill and the officer who is appointed may require a period of special training before he can take up duties in Ceylon, but it affords the Council great satisfaction to be able to report that there is every likelihood of the work of the department being restarted and continued with fresh vigour in the near future.



Very considerable interest has centred during the year in the so-called "Demala-Mahá-Séya" Paintings at Polonnaruwa. These paintings, which are among the finest of their kind extant, are unfortunately disappearing. A complete set of copies of the paintings as they exist at present has been made by Mr. W. M. Fernando of the Archæological Commission and now adorns the walls of the Colombo Museum. Mr. Joseph, the acting Director of the Museum, and Mr. W. M. Fernando, deserve the special thanks of the Society for this useful work and the Council hope that the generous example of those gentlemen, who contributed towards the cost, will be followed by others. The Council are glad to be able to report, that though it will probably not be possible to prevent further deterioration of the original paintings, steps are being taken by the Public Works Department to afford them such protection as is possible in their present condition. A copy of an old painting at the Hindagala Vihara near Kandy has been made by Mr. Fernando of the Colombo Museum. Of this painting Sir John Marshall, K.C.I.E., Director General of Archaeology, India, and Monsieur A. Foucher of the Paris University, say: "It appears to be a very good piece of work, approximately of the seventh century A.D." On representations made by the Council, steps are being taken to have the antiquities stored in the Archæological Museum at Anuradhapura numbered and listed with reference to the locality where they were found, etc. A set of new registers is being opened by the acting Director, Colombo Museum, giving full particulars in regard to sculptures and inscriptions in the museum, which should prove of great interest to Archæologists.

#### Library.

The additions to the library include parts of periodicals numbered 94.

The library is indebted for donations to the following:—The Government of India; The Government of Siam; The Government of Ceylon; The Pali Text Society, London; The Manager, National Monthly; The Editors, Ceylon Antiquary and Literary Register; The Director, Colombo Museum; and the Mysore Archæological Department, India.

#### FINANCES.

The annexed balance sheet discloses a balance of Rs. 495.45 to the credit of the Society. The receipts last year amounted to Rs. 6,673.06, while expenditure was Rs. 6,177.65.

The accounts in regard to the sales of Papança Sudani (Chalmers' Oriental Text Fund) are also annexed.

The state of finances of the Society had been a cause of considerable anxiety to the Council. The Society has passed through the period of the war without any serious diminution of its activities but, like other institutions, it has suffered by the general rise in prices, and by the fact that the Government contribution has been withdrawn during the whole period of the war. Moreover the printing of the Maldivian Linguistic Studies referred to above has been somewhat of a drain on its resources. Difficulty has been experienced in the recovery of arrears of subscriptions, and a number of names have had to be struck off on this account. The Council however relies on the co-operation of members, and the Treasurer will be greatly helped if all members will pay their subscriptions promptly.

The Council is indebted to Mr. Herbert Tarrant for kindly auditing the accounts, a work he has done for many years.

### Balance Sheet of the Ceylon Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for the Year 1918

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	Rs.		
Balance from 1917	3,345	Charges (stationery, hiring chairs, etc.)	460
Entrance fees	157	Salaries	1,236
D'oyly's Diary Fund (by sales, etc.)	884	Printing	4,181
Sundries	367	Books	16
Annual Subscription for		Postages	199
1919	Rs. 68.25	Petty cash (Sunday and rickshaw allowances)	77
1918	1,156.25	Sundries (Bank charges, etc.)	5
1917	372.75	Balance for 1919	954
1916	209.00		
1915	101.25		
1914	10.50		
	1,918		
		Total Rs.	6,673
			06

\* Outstanding liabilities at the end of the year, Rs. 1,732.40.

Audited and found correct.

(Sgd.) HERBERT TARRANT.

24-3-19.

(Sgd.) GERARD A. JOSEPH,

Honorary Treasurer.



## The Chalmers' Oriental Text Fund, 1918

RECEIVED.		No. of Copies.	No. of Copies.
Balance in stock, 1918	..	684	..
Booksellers, etc.	..	..	629
Free ..	..	..	1
Balance (retained to distribute among libraries)	..	..	54
Total		684	Total 684
RECEIPTS.		Rs.	Cts.
Balance from 1917	..	992	65
Sales, etc.	..	939	00
Total Rs....		1,931	65
Total		Total Rs.... 1,931 65	

Audited and found correct.

(Sgd.) HERBERT TARRANT.

24-3-19.

(Sgd.) GERARD A. JOSEPH,

Honorary Treasurer.

Dr. S. C. Paul moved the adoption of the report. Mr. N. D. A. S. Wijayasinha seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

3. The Ven'ble Mr. F. H. de Winton proposed the election of the following Office-Bearers:—

*Patron:*

His Excellency Sir W. H. Manning.

*Vice-Patron:*

The Rt. Rev. Dr. E. A. Copleston, D.D.

*President:*

Sir Ponnambalam Arunáchalam, Kt., M.A.

*Vice-Presidents:*

Dr. P. E. Pieris, Litt.D., C.C.S.

The Hon'ble Sir Anton Bertram, Kt., M.A., K.C.

*Council:*

Dr. A. Nell, M.R.C.S.

Mr. A. M. Gunasekara, Mudaliyar.

„ W. A. de Silva, J.P.

„ F. Lewis.

„ W. F. Gunawardhana, Mudaliyar.

„ C. W. Horsfall.

Mr. Gerard A. Joseph, C.C.S., Honorary Treasurer.

Messrs. C. H. Collins, B.A., C.C.S., and Gerard A. Joseph, C.C.S., Honorary Secretaries.

Mudaliyar W. Samarasinha seconded—carried.

4. Sir Ponnambalam Arunáchalam delivered the following:—

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

On behalf of the Office-Bearers and the members of the Council, whom you have been good enough to re-elect, I thank you for this mark of your appreciation and confidence, which we will do our best in the future to merit. The efficiency of a Society like this depends, in large measure, on the zeal and ability of the Secretaries. I cannot speak too highly of the services of Messrs. Collins and Joseph during the critical period of the Society's history. We regret very much that this will be the last occasion on which we shall be honoured with the presence of our Chairman, who has always taken great interest in our welfare. The Society's loss will, however, be the gain of Hong-Kong. We congratulate him as well as that Colony. This Society, which had been in contemplation and preparation from so far back as 1814, was actually founded in February, 1845, and we are therefore in the 75th year of our existence and among the oldest literary Societies in the East. We celebrated our Jubilee in 1895 under the distinguished auspices of the late Metropolitan of Calcutta, then our President. If the times had been more propitious, if the blighting influence of the war was not still weighing upon us, we should have made an endeavour to celebrate worthily what is more than our Diamond Jubilee. It is interesting to recall that the Society began its life with 34 members and now counts more than ten times that number. There was not one Ceylonese member then, and now Ceylonese form the great majority. This is a



measure of the progress of education among us and is all the more creditable, as we have no facilities in the Island for higher education and research. Though we are not able to celebrate the attainment of our 75th year, we should be failing in our duty if we did not remember with love and gratitude our founders and benefactors, the innumerable men of whose learning and zeal we are enjoying the fruits, who, amid not very genial surroundings and the cares of profession and business, toiled and laboured with the kindest wishes and hopes for us, who have left us records of all they were able to learn of Ceylon, its past and present, about the facts of nature and history, about climates and seasons and places, birds and beasts and shells, men and plants and antiquities, about the laws of life and death, who left us the story of their efforts, their triumphs and failures, for warning or example. The sum of their toil is incalculable, and all they have given us ought to be sacred, if only by reason of the infinite labour and thought it cost. Not only should we bear them in undying remembrance and utter the gladness of our thanks, but we owe it to them to preserve and improve the precious inheritance and hand it down to those who come after us. The portraits of some of these benefactors should hang in the Society's rooms as a stimulus and an inspiration to us—such men as our first President and Vice-President, Mr. Justice Stark and Dr. MacVicar; our first Secretary Knighton, the historian; and among his successors Messrs. John Capper, John Harward, H. C. P. Bell, to all of whom the Society owes lasting gratitude for years of efficient and zealous service; Dr. Copleston, the late Metropolitan of Calcutta, who held the position of President for seventeen years; his predecessor the late Col. Fyers, the Surveyor General, who held the office in the previous decade; scholars such as Rev. Messrs. D. J. Gogeryly and Spence Hardy; scientists such as Gygax, Layard, Kelaart, Legge, Trimen, Willey; Governors Sir Wm. Gregory and Sir Arthur Gordon, our Patrons, to whose enlightened and generous sympathy we owe respectively the Museum and the Archæological Department, which this Society had long pressed on Government; Civil Servants such as Sir John Dickson, Sir James Swettenham, Childers, Rhys Davids, Nevill, Gray, White, Burrows, Lewis; Vice-Presidents Dr. Boake and George Wall; President John Ferguson and his nephew Donald Ferguson, a voluminous contributor to our Journals. Among Ceylonese might be named, in addition to Kelaart already mentioned, Simon Casie Chetty of the Civil Service, James de Alwis, Maha Mudaliyar de Zoysa, Sir Muttu Coomaraswamy, Dandris de Silva Gunaratne Mudaliyar, Leopold Ludovici, Louis Nell, C. M. Fernando and others, who have passed away.

The Report you have heard read shows, I trust, that the Society is pursuing its activities in a manner worthy of its past and has during the year turned out a fair amount of good work in spite of serious difficulties and embarrassments due to the war. Our financial condition has, as the Report mentions, been a source of great anxiety, especially with the loss of the annual grant from Government and of the facilities for printing at the Government Press. These were privileges we have long enjoyed, as the Government recognised that we were doing work of great public utility, some at least of which would have to be done by Government itself if the Society did not exist. His Excellency Sir West Ridgeway in addressing us in 1897, said: "You may be independent of Government, but Government is not independent of you."

Much of the scientific work undertaken by the Government of Ceylon has been due to the insistence of this Society." The compilation of Vital Statistics now done by the Registrar-General and the Meteorological work of the Surveyor-General were activities begun and carried on for years by the Society. Our zoological collection was the nucleus of the collection now in the Museum, which Sir William Gregory erected on our representation, as later the Archæological Department was created by Sir Arthur Gordon. We have from time to time published important works on Ceylon and its dependencies such as, to mention only recent publications, Sir John D'Oyly's *Diary of the events of the passing of the Kandyan Provinces under British rule*, Andrews' *Diaries of the British Embassies to Kandy and his tour in the Kandyan districts*, Professor Geiger's *Maldivian Linguistic Studies*. Though Government has purchased copies of some of these publications, the actual cost of printing has been far from met. We venture to think that, while the members of the Society gladly contribute their brains, learning and labour, the Government help should at least be sufficient to cover the charges of printing. We have renewed our application for an annual grant and trust that, now the war has happily ended, the application will receive favourable consideration and that the grant will be increased to enable us to meet the great increase in prices since the amount was fixed many years ago. But for the Society's financial straits it could have done much more during the past five years and could do more in the future in various branches of research in which work has been suspended. Prof. Geiger's *Maldivian Studies*, excellently translated for us in 1913 by Mrs. Willis from the German, could not be published till this year. Mr. Bell, who has edited it with his usual thoroughness and seen it through the press, enriching it with valuable appendices and notes, has laid the Society and the public under great obligations by this labour of love accomplished at great personal inconvenience. Our thanks are due to the Government for allowing it to be printed at the Government Press, which alone in Ceylon is able to cope adequately with the exigencies of such a work. We are also grateful to our late Vice-President, Mr. J. P. Lewis, for devoting some of his well-earned leisure in his retirement to editing Andrews' *Diaries*, which throw much light on the beginnings of the political relations of Great Britain with Ceylon.

The great historical work of Fernao de Queiroz, the *Conquista de Ceilao*, which was originally discovered by the late Papal Delegate, Mgr. Zaleski, and of which a copy obtained from Brazil by Mr. Paul Pieris was acquired by the Ceylon Government and printed in 1916 at the Government expense, will, I am glad to say, be at no distant date available in an English dress. The work of translating and editing it has been kindly undertaken for Government by the well-known Jesuit Father and scholar, the Revd. S. G. Perera, S. J. Fernao de Queiroz was a Portuguese Jesuit priest, who rose to be the Provincial Superior of the Order in the East and died in Goa in April 1688. While in the East he had access to official records and other authentic sources of history now lost, and his account compiled from them of the rise and fall of the Portuguese rule in Ceylon is of surpassing value for the period it covers.

Among the lectures organised by the Society during the year, two fascinating lectures deserve special mention: one by Dr. A. H. Sayce, Professor of Assyriology at Oxford, on the recent



excavations at Meroe, the ancient capital of Ethiopia; and the other by Dr. A. Nell on the Origins and Styles of Ancient Stone Architecture in Ceylon. The public is greatly indebted to the Acting Director of the Museum, Mr. Joseph, for the beautiful copies made at his instance by Mr. W. M. Fernando of the fast disappearing paintings in the Demala Maha Seya at Polonnaruwa. These copies with others previously made by him were exhibited and explained at a meeting of the Society and are now hung in the Museum. Of not less interest was the painting discovered by our late Secretary, Mr. Codrington, at Hindagala Vihara near Kandy and of which a copy made by Mr. Fernando is also hung at the Museum. Professor Foucher of the University of Paris, who has recently seen it, thinks highly of it as a work of Buddhist Art and assigns it to the 7th century. How so ancient a painting came to be made in that neighbourhood remains a mystery, which may perhaps be solved when the inscriptions, of which estampages and eye-copies have been sent to the Director-General of Indian Archæology, Sir John Marshall, have been deciphered and translated. The generosity of our late Governor, Sir Robert Chalmers, has provided this Society with a reproductive fund for the publication of critical recensions of the Buddhist Pitakas and Atthakathas by the best scholars of the Island in a manner worthy of the best traditions of Pali scholarship. The series is called the Alu Vihara Edition, after the famous rock temple of Alu Vihara, where the Buddhist Scriptures were first reduced to writing 2,200 years ago. The first work undertaken was *Papanca Sudani*, the Commentary of the great Buddhaghosa on the *Majjima Nikaya*, and was entrusted by Sir Robert Chalmers to a distinguished scholar, the late High Priest Sri Dhammarama of the Vidyalankara College. One volume was published last year and the remainder is being carried through the press by his pupil and successor, the High Priest Dhammananda. The High Priest Nanissara has been entrusted with the preparation of the *Samanta Pasadika*, the Commentary on the Vinaya Pitaka, and it will probably take a year to complete.

I referred in my address last year to what is perhaps the most memorable work done in recent years—the unearthing of ancient Buddhist remains in Jaffna, dating from before the Christian era, by our Vice-President, Dr. Paul Pieris. He has found there a large number of ancient coins not only of the Roman Empire but of very much earlier periods and has promised to give us an address on them. It will be looked forward to with the greatest interest by all of us to whom his paper on Nāgadīpa and the Buddhist remains in Jaffna opened up new and incredible vistas. Fresh and interesting fields of historical inquiry during the Middle Ages have been opened by Dr. S. C. Paul, whose appointment to the Council we welcome to-day. He gave us a foretaste of his researches in a recent paper on the Overlordship of Ceylon in the 13th, 14th and 15th centuries. The paper has been the subject of much discussion and criticism and will, I trust, lead to a thorough ventilation of the question and the elucidation of the truth. In finding time, amid the calls of an exacting profession, for historical research he has put many of us to shame and set an example which, if generally followed, will make the work of this Society more fruitful.

It is a great satisfaction to us to know that steps are being taken by Government to fill the vacancy in the office of Archæological Commissioner, which has remained unfilled since the

lamented and untimely death in 1914 of Mr. Ayrton, an officer of rare promise. During the period that has since elapsed the antiquities of the Island, unearthed and preserved during over 50 years at great expense, have suffered serious and in some cases irretrievable damage for want of proper supervision, and the Society has often pressed upon Government the necessity of an early appointment. The distinguished Archæologist and Oriental Scholar, Professor Foucher, who is now collaborating with Sir John Marshall in the excavations at Taxila on the North Western frontier of India and elsewhere and who has seen our ruins as they are now and as they were ten years ago, has within the last few days written to me from India deploring the great deterioration that our monuments have suffered.

As a typical instance, he mentions the frescoes in the Vihares of Polonnaruwa, which he found still fresh and vivid then and which he now finds almost completely defaced by rain and sun. It is a case, he says, where a thousand rupees spent in good time would have saved a hundred thousand. The annual clearing of the grass with the native hoe on the brick walls of Sigiriya does much to disintegrate them and they are practically crumbling down. Much the same problem has to be confronted in French Cambodia and Dutch Java. There too the forest is at the same time a deadly foe and a most picturesque frame for the ancient monuments and they must be saved from the mortal embrace of the roots without detriment to the wonderful beauty of their tropical surroundings. From Professor Foucher's long experience he considers that we want in the first place a good European architect with an artistic as well as technical training and with his heart in his work. This *rara avis* he thinks not impossible to find in spite of the gaps made by the war among the youth of Europe. Some assistants born in the Island would be necessary to help him in his multifarious tasks and attend to the reading of inscriptions, etc. One or two of these assistants might be first sent as Government Scholars to some European Universities (Paris for one, he says, would be glad to receive them) and then to the Archæological Survey of India for a more special training, for which he is sure Sir John Marshall will give every facility. Professor Foucher suggests that the primary task of the new Archæological Commissioner would be, for some years to come, a self-denying one and would mainly consist in taking stock of the inheritance from his predecessors and putting in a thorough state of conservation the monuments excavated by them, before attempting any new research of his own. The suggestions of Prof. Foucher I submit for the favourable consideration of Government.

I would especially ask that provision be made for training Ceylonese students in the manner he recommends. This would safeguard our archæological work from the serious dangers which we have had to face, and would in time train, as has been successfully done in India, a band of efficient Ceylonese to carry on the work. Such a provision would be on the lines of the recommendations made by the recent Commission on Public Service, of which you, Sir, were Chairman, and is quite practicable. There are already scholars of European training, like Mr. D. B. Jayatillaka, who with a few months' training under Sir John Marshall would be quite competent to take charge of the Archæological Department of Ceylon; or if that is deemed too radical a change of policy, one or two of the Government scholars who are sent to Europe might

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be instructed to qualify themselves there for the duties of Assistant Archæologist and, after a further training in India, given the appointment here with prospect of rising to the higher post. Our ancient monuments are acknowledged to be of unique value and their conservation and exploration is a work in which a much larger public than that of Ceylon is interested. A policy of *laissez faire* is as detrimental as the blundering of untrained persons. We have every hope that measures will be taken by Government that will be adequate and effective and will usher in a new era for the Archæology of Ceylon.

5. Mr. Collins then read the following paper on "The Authorities for the History of the British Period in Ceylon, 1795-1805," by Mr. L. J. B. Turner.

**NOTES ON SOME OF THE AUTHORITIES FOR  
THE HISTORY OF THE BRITISH IN  
CEYLON, 1795-1805**

By L. J. B. TURNER, M.A., C.C.S.

Although the period selected for our chief consideration dates from the beginning of the final British occupation, there were British subjects, and, consequently, British records, in Ceylon long before that date. As some of these records are of great interest, though they are outside the period mentioned, I propose to touch briefly upon them before coming to the main period.

**Knox**

The first of these records is Robert Knox's "Historical Relation," of which the original edition was published in 1681. Knox's captivity of "near twenty years" from the end of 1659 in the Kandyan districts allowed him ample opportunity for the collection of material, and the unanimous verdict of the numerous writers on Ceylon who followed him is that the work attains a high standard of accuracy. Modern study of it in the country itself bears out this verdict, and there can be no hesitation in regarding the "Historical Relation" as reliable and authentic.

**Pybus**

The next British record is that of the Embassy of Pybus to Kandy in 1762. This consists of a Report dated October, 1762, and a daily Journal from May 5th to July 3rd, 1762, printed together in the small volume published by the Government Printer, Ceylon, in 1862. This volume bears the superscription: "Printed from the records of the Madras Government," but I have been unable to find out at whose instance the work was done.



In any case, the documents come from the proper custody, and are, without doubt, what they purport to be—the first-hand report and the diary of the actual experiences of the Ambassador—an obviously authentic authority. It may be noted that, it was not till the publication of the Report and Journal that the correct date of the Embassy of Pybus was known. Previously, it was put at all dates from 1763 to 1766.

### Boyd

The remaining British authorities in the period before 1795 are those bearing on the British occupation and subsequent loss of Trincomalee in 1782, the chief being the Journal of Boyd's Embassy to Kandy—with an Appendix of Letters—which appears in the second volume of Boyd's Miscellaneous Works, collected by L. D. Campbell and published in London in 1800. The Journal describes the route and experiences of the Embassy from 5th February, 1782, to 26th March, and is clearly authentic.

Boyd's personal history is too interesting to omit, even in this resumé. He was a more or less well-known man of letters in London about 1780, being one of the candidates for the authorship of the *Letters of Junius*, but, being in financial difficulties, he came to Madras as one of Lord Macartney's secretaries. In this capacity he was given the Embassy to Kandy, which accompanied the expedition against Trincomalee, and returned from Kandy on 26th March, 1782. He sailed for India on the 8th of April. The British occupied Trincomalee from 5th January till 31st August, 1782. Tennent is wrong in saying that Boyd, on his return, found the French in possession,\* but the French fleet was in the vicinity when Boyd sailed, and he was captured by the *La Fin* frigate on 10th April. The *La*

*Fin* was, in its turn, captured by the British *Isis* in the general engagement of 12th April, but Boyd was too ill after his journey to Kandy to go on board the *Isis*. In the night a fresh breeze sprung up, and *La Fin* got away, with Boyd on board, and a prisoner. He was naturally greatly annoyed, and remonstrated with the captain about his behaviour in terms so pointed and strong that he was ordered into close confinement, and, although he was released next day, he was sent to Mauritius and then to Reunion, as a prisoner of war.\*

Several of Boyd's papers appear to have been appropriated by his French captors, and it is probable that they were sent by them to the Dutch Government in Colombo, and that they are those found among the Dutch records by Mr. H. C. P. Bell in 1889. The originals were much damaged by damp, but the Dutch translations which had been made of them were then extant, and are referred to and quoted in the *Ceylon Literary Register* (Weekly), Volume IV., 125 ff. The Journal, however, appears to have escaped the fate of these letters, and Boyd's biographer says that Boyd sent it to Mrs. Boyd, while he was still in captivity, and Campbell apparently got it from her.

Boyd's correspondence is interesting in that it corroborates the detailed account of the naval operations off Ceylon in 1782 given in Mill's "History of British India," Volume IV., 237 ff. Mill gives no authorities for his details, but his work is presumably authentic. Incidentally, we may note that the "View of Hindustan" by the veteran naturalist, Pennant, published in 1798, has brief references to the naval battle off Trincomalee in September, 1782, which have been transcribed by Mill and several others without acknowledgment. They are, presumably, authentic.

\* II., 67.

\* *Ceylon Literary Register*,



The remainder of the period under review falls naturally into two divisions—the Madras Administration and the Administration of Governor the Hon. Frederic North.

#### The Madras Administration

The records of the Madras Administration may be divided into two classes, published and unpublished official records, and the historical portions of published standard works on Ceylon. We may deal with the latter first. They are many in number, and vary in value, but we shall confine ourselves here to what may be called the "primary" authorities.

#### The Capitulation of Colombo

The first of these are the authorities for the facts of the Capitulation of the Dutch settlements to the British arms, of which the principal are the works of Percival: "An Account of the Island of Ceylon," London, 1803, 2nd Edition, 1805; and of C. F. Tombe: "Voyage pendant les années, 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805 et 1806." We shall see later that Percival's work, though in parts possibly authentic, is generally of doubtful value, if not actually unreliable, and M. Tombe's, interesting and useful as it is in many ways, is probably much the same. Tombe—not de la Thombe, as it is often written—was "Ancien Capitain—Adjoint du Genie employé pres de la Haute Regence a Batavia, actuellement Chef de Bataillon, Officer supérieur de l'Etat—Major General de l' Armee d' Italie," and it was at Batavia that he collected his material from Dutch officers who were in Colombo in 1795, probably about ten years after the event. Though his account may be possibly correct in some of the details, the charge of treason which he lays against the Dutch Governor appears to be exaggerated, if not entirely unfounded.\*

\* *Ceylon Antiquary*, III., 237 ff.

The other principal authorities on the capitulation are Welsh's *Military Reminiscences*, J. J. Cotton's *His Majesty's Regiment de Meuron*, H. W. M.'s Article on the Regiment de Meuron in the 1915 Christmas Number of the "Times of Ceylon," R. G. Anthonisz' *Johan Gerard van Angelbeek*, all authentic authorities. The other standard authorities generally give more or less full accounts of the occupation, but these contain little more than is borrowed from Percival or Tombe, or both.

#### Other Unofficial Authorities

From the date of the Capitulation of Colombo—15th February, 1796—unofficial records of the Madras Administration are brief and scanty. Lord Valentia, whose work will be noticed later, has an excellent general account of the nature and results of the Madras Administration, derived, no doubt, from Governor North himself, but it is quite short, and incidental, and few details are given. Cordiner\* also makes only incidental mention of the oppressions of the Madras officials, and even Tennent, who had the advantage of the perusal of the Wellesley MSS., dismisses the subject in a single, though able, paragraph.†

#### Official Documents

Thus, for anything approaching an adequate view of the Madras Administration, we must turn to the official documents. The first of these are the papers and proceedings of the Committee of Investigation, which form part of the Wellesley MSS. in the British, and of which extracts were made by Mr. A. E. Buultjens, and published in the *Ceylon Literary Register* (Weekly), II., 124 ff. Other important documents—the Journals of the Embassies to Kandy, in 1795 and 1796, of Robert Andrews, the representative of the Madras

\* II., 159.

† II., 72.



Government in Ceylon—have been, and are being, printed in the Proceedings of this Society, under the editorship of Mr. J. P. Lewis and Mr. Collins. The Journal of the 1795 Embassy is preceded by a valuable preface by the former.

But the principal authority for the period is the, for the most part unpublished, *Jaffna Diary*. Mr. Lewis, when Government Agent of the Northern Province, discovered its importance, and refers frequently to it, and quotes largely from it, in his work on the "Tombstones and Monuments in Ceylon." As the oldest official record since the British occupation, the first entry being that of 3rd December, 1795, this Diary is of the greatest interest and value. The despatches of Governor North and letters from Cleghorn, the Secretary to Government, also throw considerable light upon the history of the years 1795-1798, and the MSS. of the late Mr. Sueter have several valuable references and quotations bearing upon the same period.

#### Cordiner

We now pass to the second division of our whole period, that of the Hon. Frederic North's Administration, 1798-1805. Of the unofficial authorities, the most important, though not the earliest, is the work of the Revd. James Cordiner—"A Description of Ceylon," London, 1807. This reverend gentleman had been sent out to Madras by Archdeacon Bell to attend to the schools there, but, on his arrival, found that his expected post had already been filled, and was, presumably, only too willing to accept Mr. North's offer of employment in Ceylon as Chaplain to the Garrison of Colombo, and Superintendent of Schools.\*

As the Governor was greatly interested in education, it was natural that Mr. Cordiner should frequently

be in attendance upon His Excellency, and it would appear that it was not long before he was admitted to an intimate friendship with the Governor, accompanying him on his tours round the Island, and frequently visiting at Government House. When, therefore, Mr. Cordiner conceived the idea of writing a book on Ceylon, he would have no difficulty in having access to the best available authorities, and we should, accordingly, suppose, *a priori*, that, if his authorities were properly utilised, we should have before us a work of high authenticity.

There is, however, nothing on the face of it to show the correctness of this supposition. Cordiner only on the rarest occasions quotes any authority, or gives the slightest indication of the sources of his information, and the volumes, in themselves, leave us quite in the dark as to their value as historical records. But it does not require more than a cursory acquaintance with the Government records of the day to enable one to see that Cordiner has adhered to them closely and faithfully. His figures of revenue and expenditure\* can be seen to be based on official returns; his account of land tenure, and of native ranks† is borne out by official documents; his quotation regarding the Dutch judicature‡ is Cleghorn's Minute,|| though Cordiner does not, of course, say so; his itinerary of the Governor's tour round Ceylon in 1800 is verified, in detail, by Mr. North's own correspondence.§ But the most complete vindication of Cordiner's authenticity is his long account of the Kandyan Campaign of 1803, for which it is evident that he has referred to, and, in many places, copied verbatim, the official papers on the subject. Phrases from Mr.

\* I., 16.

† I., 19.

‡ I., 67.

|| *Ceylon Literary Register* (Weekly), VI., 43.

§ Wellesley MSS.

\* Despatch of February 26, 1799, para. 93.



Boyd's report of 24th July, 1802—given in the appendix to Percival (2nd Edition)—appear in Cordiner's account of the spoliation of the Puttalam merchants in 1802.\* A near quotation from the Governor's Proclamation of 29th January, 1803, is given in the same connection.† The mileage of the itinerary of the Colombo Army on its march to Kandy agrees very closely with the distance by a modern map. Cordiner quotes from the articles of the convention with Muttusamy, given in full by Marshall.‡ His accounts of the defensive and offensive measures of the later part of 1803 agree entirely with, and are often taken verbatim from, the *Government Gazette*; and, in many other instances, his facts and figures are verified by one or more of the official authorities.

### Percival

In considerable contrast to Cordiner's work is that of Percival, covering much the same period and subjects. Percival was a Captain in the famous 19th Regiment of Foot, arriving in Ceylon in 1797,||—1796§ appears to be wrong—and remaining till 1800, visiting, in that time, "almost every part of the seacoast".¶ But his work contains many errors. He says that Point Pedro is called Hamsheel Point, but the modern Hamaniel is near Kayts; he puts Kalutara on the South-East coast; the first edition has it that the Mahaweliganga falls into the sea near Colombo, and though the error, in one place, is corrected in the second edition,\*\* it remains uncorrected elsewhere.†† It is also

\* II., 164.

† II., 165-6.

‡ 240, *Cordiner*, II., 186-7.

|| First Edition, 1.

§ *Ib.* 106.

¶ *Ib.* 3.

\*\* *Ib.* 37.

†† *Ib.* 379.

incorrect to say that Barbut was commander and collector of Jaffna "ever since" it was taken by the British, as he was not appointed Collector till February, 1798;\* nor is it at all likely that Colonel Petrie was one of the military Governors of 1796-7† when his tombstone says that he was only Commandant of Colombo.‡ But it is in his account of the Embassy to Kandy in 1800 that Percival really gives himself away. Both Percival and Cordiner give very detailed accounts of this Embassy; Percival states that he accompanied the Embassy; Cordiner's authority is a diary kept by Captain MacPherson, Secretary to the Embassy. The first and most important difference is found in the itinerary. Except as to the date of departure from Colombo—Cordiner (II., 287) says 12th March, but gives 10th at page 323, Percival gives 10th, and Wellesley MSS. say 12th;|| if Cordiner's 10th is a misprint, 12th would be correct—the two accounts agree as to the route from Colombo *via* Hanwella, Avissávella, Epalapitiya, as far as Ruvanvella. But after that stage, differences of distances, dates and stages become apparent, and it is easily seen that Percival had made at least one radical error. His halting place on April 5th is "Wolgoagoudi" (Valgavvágoda), on the 6th "Ganna Tenna," and on the 8th Ganarooa, the distance from Valgavvágoda to Gannoruva being given as 17 miles. Now Valgavvágoda is not more than 8 miles from Gannoruva, and is at the top of the Kadugannáva Pass, not at the bottom, as Percival appears to mean, while Ganétenna is at the bottom, not at the top. The two itineraries of the return journey are also instructive. They are:

\* *Jaffna Diary*.

† *Percival*, First Edition, 110.

‡ *Lewis*, *Tombstones and Monuments*.

|| *Ceylon Literary Register* (Weekly), II., 280.



## CORDINER\*

April 25 Valgoovagoody  
 27 Ittapitty  
 May 3 Iddamalpany  
 5 Roovangwello  
 7 Columbo, by water

## PERCIVAL

The General commenced his route for Ruanelli, presumably from Kandy, on 2nd May, arrived on 6th, left for Colombo on the 7th, while the troops marched to Gurrawaddi on 11th, Cuddavilli 13th, Colombo 14th.

The chief point to note is that it is only on the Colombo side of Ruvanvella that the itineraries agree; possibly Percival himself did not proceed beyond Ruvanvella. Although five companies of the 19th accompanied the Embassy as far as Ruvanvella, they were not taken beyond that point.† There is no reason to suppose that Percival held a staff appointment, and his place would be with his own men, and not among the General's suite. Hence, it is very probable that he stayed back at Ruvanvella, and it would appear, from his giving the return stages of the troops, that he returned with them, and not with the General.

Several other details point to the fact that Percival did not proceed beyond Ruvanvella. If he had done so, he would hardly have said that the Kelani flowed from Kandy,‡ apparently thinking that it was a branch of the Mahaweliganga. It would also appear that Percival's details of the interpretation at the audiences are wrong. He says that the Adigar repeated the King's words to the Maha Mudaliyar, who reproduced them in Portuguese to M. Jonville, who repeated them in French to the General; whereas Cordiner gives the following order, the King, the Second Adigar, the Disawa of Uva,

\* II., 323.

† Percival, First Edition, 376; Cordiner, II., 292; Ceylon Literary Register (Weekly), 286.

‡ 389.

the interpreter, and thence, through Portuguese into English, which agrees with the practice of the previous Embassies. There is also a contradiction about the lighting of the Audience Hall, and, if Cordiner is right, Percival is wrong.

The position is, therefore, that Percival either went to Kandy, and grossly malobserved and misreported all kinds of details, or else he did not go beyond Ruvanvella and compiled his account from second-hand and inferior sources. Percival himself conveys the impression, whether he intends to do so or not, that he did go to Kandy,\* but that is very doubtful, even if it is not clear that he did not go beyond Ruvanvella.

In any case, the number of errors in the account of the Embassy and elsewhere would seem to justify the classification of Percival's work as doubtful, if not unreliable. He may not, of course, be always wrong, and his work contains many things of interest and importance, the chief of these being the collection of documents appended to the second edition,† but his unsupported statements must always be received with caution.

### Lord Valentia

The next unofficial authority, which calls for notice, is the work of George, Viscount Valentia: "Voyages and Travels to India, Ceylon, the Red Sea, Abyssinia and Egypt, in the years 1802, 1803, 1804, 1805, and 1806," three volumes, London, 1809, in diary form. Lord Valentia arrived at Galle on 18th December, 1803, and left from Talaimanaar on 25th January, 1804. For nearly four out of the five weeks of his stay, he was the guest of Governor North at St. Sebastian's, confined to his room through illness. But he appears to have employed his time to great advantage in collecting "many inter-

\* 399 *et seq.*

† This is, however, preceded by what appears to be an erroneous account of the Kandyan politics of the time.



esting particulars concerning the island"\* being "much entertained by my (Mr. North's) researches," and has preserved so full and detailed an account of Governor North's and Mr. Boyd's interviews with the First Adigar. Pilama Talawuwé, at Sitawaka, early in 1800, that it has become the principal authority for the diplomatic history of that time. The minuteness of the detail points to a surmise that Lord Valentia had before him some kind of journal or diary of the proceedings, possibly one kept by Boyd. His facts are, with few exceptions, corroborated by Mr. North's correspondence, published among the Wellesley MSS. The other particulars given in his work are generally corroborated by official documents, and it seems fairly clear that his principal informant was the Governor himself. His work is undoubtedly authentic.

#### Johnston

In the following year, another clearly authentic work was published, that of Major Johnston—the "Narrative of the Operations of a Detachment in an Expedition to Candy in the Island of Ceylon, in the year 1804," London, 1810. In 1800, Johnston was Lieutenant in the 19th Foot, in command of a corps of pioneers, which opened a road for the General's Embassy to Kandy. He was Agent of Revenue and Commerce at Chilaw towards the end of 1801 and in 1802. In 1803, he commanded the Free Malays, and was, apparently, appointed Senior Commissioner of Seven Korales. He contracted fever in Kandy in April, and was sent on a sea voyage, thus escaping the Kandy massacre of June. By November, 1803, he was commandant of Batticaloa, whence in September and October, 1804, he conducted the famous expedition of 305 soldiers and 550 coolies and pioneers,

\* I., 276.

† *Ceylon Literary Register* (Weekly), II., 301.

‡ I., 264-337.

|| Despatch of April 20, 1803.

which marched on Kandy *via* Alutnuvara, and occupied the Hill Capital, discovering there the accoutrements, and even the bones, of the victims of the massacre. From Kandy, a start was made for Trincomalee, and that post eventually was reached after terrible hardships and suffering. The book is written in a direct and lucid style, and is the authority for the facts of the campaign in question. It also contains general observations regarding the service conditions of the day, which are both interesting and important.

#### Anderson

While on the subject of the Kandyan war, we may note the importance of the Appendix to the copy of the "Poems" of Lieutenant T. A. Anderson, which is preserved in the Colombo Museum. This copy was presented by Mr. J. P. Lewis, and is said by him to be the only known copy which contains the appendix. The appendix contains copies of letters written to Lieutenant Anderson from the officers of the troops left in Kandy as a garrison, and forms a first hand, obviously authentic, authority on the state of the garrison, and the proximate causes of the massacre.

Most of the other older unofficial authorities are to be classed as "secondary," many of them taking their particulars, often without acknowledgment, from works previously published. It is not possible to refer to all of them in this short sketch, but the following brief notes may be given. The "History of Ceylon," by "Philalethes, A.M. Oxon.," London, 1817, contains little that is new, but is interesting on account of the author's anonymity. Mr. Lewis, in his "Tombstones and Monuments"\* ascribes it to Revd. Robert Fellowes, LL.D., while Barrow† and Tennent‡ give it to the Revd. G. Bisset.

\* 448.

† 8.

‡ I., xxiv.



### Bertolacci

Bertolacci's "View of the Agricultural, Commercial and Financial Interests of Ceylon," 1817, deserves special mention as the first, and, apparently, the only work on the political economy of the British possessions in Ceylon. Although it deals directly with a somewhat later period than that now under discussion it contains much valuable information on it as well.

Bertolacci came out with Governor North in 1798 as Assistant Private Secretary for French correspondence,\* and held many posts under Mr. North's government:—Commissary of Musters, Postmaster General, Sitting Magistrate of the Pettah, Colombo, Garrison Storekeeper, Muster Master, and becoming later Comptroller General of Customs. His work has thus, naturally, an official basis, and, although he rarely gives his authorities, he is, probably, in most cases, referring to official documents and returns. He quotes frequently from the Papers of the Committee of Investigation, though he does not say so, and his work, though not devoid of inaccuracies, can be classed as authentic. He develops, inductively, the principle that an unfavourable balance of trade, that is, an excess of imports over exports, produces a fall of the local exchange.

The importance of the works of a number of writers later in date, varies considerably from the point of view of the history of the years 1795 to 1805. Dr. Davy's "Interior of Ceylon" (1821) deals authoritatively with a somewhat later period, but has an important bearing on some of the Kandyan history of the period under review. De Bussche's "Letters on Ceylon" (1826) also refer more to a later period, but contain valuable returns of troops serving in 1803, and interesting reflections on the campaigns of 1803-1805. As he was Deputy Adju-

\* *Ceylon Literary Register* (Weekly), II., 223.

tant General in 1815, he had access to official returns, and his information may be taken to be authentic. Major Forbes, writing in 1840, refers, in his "Eleven Years in Ceylon," to the history of this period, but has little new to add, while Dr. Marshall's "Ceylon" (1846), while it is an original authority for the events of 1815, does little but repeat information compiled from Cordiner, Lord Valentia and others. This practice is elaborated by Pridham, whose work—published in 1849—is chiefly composed of unacknowledged extracts from the previous writers on Ceylon. He occasionally interposes remarks of his own of some value, for example, on the subject of Mr. North's negotiations with the Adigar, but the work, as far as the period 1795-1805 is concerned, is almost wholly mere compilation, showing little original research, and, in many places, is not of great value. It is thus not a primary authority, and its reliability varies.

### Tennent

Some special mention requires to be made of the work of Sir J. Emerson Tennent—first published in 1859—as it has acquired so great a reputation as a standard authority. Like many of the books on Ceylon, it is devoted to many subjects other than its history, and, in two large volumes, we only find some 19 pages with a direct bearing on the history with which we are here concerned. This portion is preceded by an able resumé of the history of the British in Ceylon before 1795, but, with one exception, the chapter on the British period may be said to follow the "traditional" lines. This exception consists of the first printed reference to the Wellesley MSS., which would appear to have been discovered by Tennent, and of the examination of the "light altogether new" thrown by them on the details of the Madras Administration, and on the negotiations between Governor North and the Adigar of Kandy. The "traditional" lines, it may be noted, are those followed



by writers before 1862, who, not having before them the Pybus documents, draw the particulars of that Embassy from Boyd's biographer or from Lord Valentia, and give it a wrong date; who follow the works of Boyd, Pennant, and Mill as authorities for the history of 1782; who quote Percival and Tombe, both doubtful authorities, on the Capitulations of 1795-6; who utilise Lord Valentia's short account of the Madras Administration, and who dedicate the rest of their space to the history of the relations between Colombo and Kandy, based chiefly on Cordiner and Lord Valentia. But Tennent makes an important departure by his development of the Wellesley MSS., and, although the space allotted to this period is so small, there can be no doubt of the ability of the work represented by it. But the following points may be noted. The statement that Boyd arrived at Trincomalee after its recapture by the French\* is incorrect. The history of the Capitulation is incomplete owing to documents, discovered later, not being at his disposal. It seems to be incorrect to state† that Colonel de Meuron was sent from India to inquire into the causes of the outbreak of 1797, as it would appear to have broken out after his arrival. The statement that the future Government of Ceylon was determined by the outbreak‡ seems also to be inaccurate as there was hardly time for any information of the rebellion to reach home before Mr. North was appointed. Lastly, a disproportionate space is allotted to the Kandyan history of the time, and insufficient attention is paid to that of the Maritime Provinces. The estimate of Mr. North's régime|| is, consequently, based on inadequate grounds, and does not contain the whole truth. But his work is generally authentic, and he is one of the few older writers who almost invariably quotes his authorities.

\* II., 67.

† II., 73.

‡ Ibid.

|| II., 86.

The work of an "Officer, late of the Ceylon Rifles" (1876) is valuable for its account of the British in Ceylon before 1795, but is not of particular importance for the period under review.

#### Lewis

Of the modern authorities the chief is Mr. J. P. Lewis, c.m.g., in whose *List of Inscriptions on Tombstones and Monuments*, though it is not cast in an historical form, one finds a mine of incidental information regarding the authorities for the history of the period, the chief persons, and many of the happenings of these and later days. The society and other aspects of the period under review are the subject of the same writer's "Early British Times," a work based on the *Government Gazette* and other contemporary authorities.

#### Sueter

The late Mr. E. B. F. Sueter's notes for a History of the Ceylon Civil Service show that he devoted a large part of his time to the study of this period, but are not in a sufficiently advanced stage to admit of their publication. They consist of ten volumes, one being a MS. copy of Council Proceedings for a few years after its first meeting, and nine typewritten. The latter consist chiefly of copies of documents bearing on Civil Service appointments, the pension fund, etc., the collection of documents for each period being preceded by a brief introduction, and being, apparently, intended as the basis for a history of the Ceylon Civil Service. It seems to be clear that Mr. Sueter had referred to the originals of the Wellesley MSS. in the British Museum, and the extracts are, consequently, of great value. In many other respects, Mr. Sueter's MSS. contain important matter for the student of this period.

#### Father S. G. Perera and Miss Methley

Of students who have done valuable work in some part of the period under review, the names of Father



Perera, S. J.\* and Miss Violet Methley call for mention. The former has collected valuable information on the subject of Trincomalee, and on other matters, while Miss Methley has been working on the history of Major Davie.

### Kandy

The history of the relations between the British and Kandyan Governments during this period has been so fully and satisfactorily described by Cordiner and Lord Valentia that, in general, little has been left for later writers to add. Even the official records, though they are of great value as checks on the unofficial work, and, occasionally, supplement the unofficial accounts, do not disclose any new information of any great importance on the subject of the Kandyan War and kindred matters. But the case is far otherwise when we regard the internal history of the Maritime Provinces under Mr. North's administration. With a few exceptions, this internal history is dismissed as calling "for no particular comment,"† or is ignored altogether, and, except in the case of Bertolacci's work, it receives no such full or systematic treatment as is accorded to the history of the Kandyan War. But the early history of the development of the administration of the Maritime Provinces is at least as important, and for it we are able to turn to the official records, published and unpublished.

### The Despatches

Of these, the most important are the Governor's Despatches, addressed, in the first instance, to the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company, and, after 1st January, 1802, to the Principal Secretary of State who had charge of colonial affairs. Some thirty-one of these Despatches are extant, bound in two large volumes, written in a flowing hand, which is,

\* *Ceylon Antiquary*, Vol. V., Part IV., page 180.

† *Ceylon Antiquary*, Vol. V., Part IV., page 166.

‡ *Pridham*, 179.

however, in places, rendered almost illegible by the fading of the ink. Many of the annexures appear to be missing, but the material available in the Despatches themselves furnish an amply sufficient basis for quite a detailed history of the time. The general arrangement falls under the headings of Legislature, Executive Government, Courts of Justice, Different Orders of Inhabitants, Revenue, Commerce, Religious Establishments, Military, Estates of Absentees and Minors, and, under most of these heads, sufficient new material is provided to form a fair sized monograph.

Even more important than his own Despatches for the history and results of Mr. North's Administration are those of his successor, Major-General Thomas Maitland. The latter, while all Mr. North's are contained in two volumes, fill four volumes between July, 1805, and October, 1806, the most important, that of 28th February, 1806, covering 107 pages and having 57 annexures. As these four volumes are devoted, almost entirely, to implicit, and, in some cases, explicit, criticisms of Mr. North's administration, the perusal of Maitland's Despatches adds largely to the available material, and, in fact, provides us with a view of that administration, which will appear novel, if not startling, to those for whom the eulogia of Cordiner, Lord Valentia, Bertolacci and the others, are the last word. Incidentally, it may be noted that the chapters in Frewn Lord's Biography of Sir Thomas Maitland, dealing with the North administration, of the authenticity of which there is no clear proof in the book itself, are only quotations from, and paraphrases of, the Despatches.

About ten of the Despatches from the Secretary of State, in reply to Ceylon Despatches, are preserved in one volume, but, although they are frequently of importance in a matter of detail, they, in general, convey a smaller proportion of information than that provided by the Despatches under reply.



### The Wellesley MSS.

Next in importance to the Despatches come the *Wellesley MSS.*, chiefly consisting of demi-official correspondence between Lord Wellesley, Governor-General of India, and Governor North, but also including some other papers, those of the Committee of Investigation, and possibly others. Reference to these MSS. is rendered possible to students in Ceylon through the publication of valuable extracts from them in the *Ceylon Literary Register*, Weekly, Volume II., 124 ff. These extracts were made by Mr. A. E. Buultjens, and form an authority of very great importance for the history of the period. In many cases, however, the precisising of the originals has left the sense somewhat obscure, and, possibly, material of interest has not been reproduced, so that it is a matter of importance for the history of this period that full and exact copies of these documents relating to Ceylon should be obtained. But the MSS. are very voluminous, and the task of selection at this distance is one of some difficulty. Arrangements should, however, be made, where possible, to obtain a copy of at least a part of these MSS. As Mr. North was a voluminous correspondent, his letters to Lord Wellesley give much new information, and throw much light on what was hitherto obscure, besides forming an excellent check on the other authorities, official and unofficial.

### The Gazette

Of the other published official authorities, one of great importance is the *Ceylon Government Gazette*, first published on Monday, 15th March, 1802, and extant among the Archives in an excellent state of preservation from that date onwards. As Mr. Lewis has pointed out in his "Early British Times," the scope of the *Gazette* was considerably wider than it is now, and though the line was drawn at poetry—"we sincerely

regret that as poetical compositions do not come within the scope of this paper," etc.\*—births, deaths, marriages, auction sales, arrival, departure and loss of ships were reported, while one could write quite a considerable history of European politics from the extensive notices given regarding them.†

Among the other official records of the time are the Council Proceedings, a copy of which forms part of the MSS. of the late Mr. Sueter, and there must be many more records of various descriptions among the Archives, and in the Government offices, which, it is to be hoped, will, one day, be brought to light.

\* *Gazette* of June 9, 1802.

† *Gazette* of February 8, 1804.



## COUNCIL MEETING

Colombo Museum, August 11, 1919

Present :

Sir Ponnambalam Arunáchalam, Kt., M.A.  
President, in the Chair.

Dr. P. E. Pieris, Litt.D., C.C.S., Vice-President.

Mr. R. G. Anthonisz.		Mr. C. W. Horsfall.
„ A. Mendis Gunasekara, Mudaliyar.		Dr. A. Nell, M.R.C.S.
Dr. C. A. Hewavitarana.		„ S. C. Paul, M.D.
Mr. C. H. Collins, B.A., C.C.S., Honorary Secretary.		Mr. E. W. Perera.

*Business:*

1. The minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21st March, 1919, were read and confirmed.

2. A letter dated 31st July, 1919, from Dr. Joseph Pearson, regarding the urgent need for an extension to the present Museum buildings was read. It was resolved to support the proposal and to write to Government urging the necessity for an extension and requesting that the building of the west wing be given consideration as early as possible.

3. The following were elected members of the Society:—

- |  |   |                       |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| (a) Leslie Mack: recommended by                        | } | Gerard A. Joseph.     |
|  |   | C. H. Collins.        |
| (b) M. S. P. Samarasingha: recommended by              | } | Simon de Silva.       |
|  |   | A. Mendis Gunasekara. |
| (c) Leslie Jocelyn Gratiaen: recommended by            | } | Leigh Smith.          |
|  |   | A. M. Gunasekara.     |
| (d) Frederick William Bakewell: recommended by         | } | C. H. Collins.        |
|  |   | Gerard A. Joseph.     |
| (e) Kosgoda Sumanawansa Sthavira: recommended by       | } | Simon de Silva.       |
|  |   | M. Paññálankára.      |
| (f) Felix Joseph Lucas Fernando (jnr.): recommended by | } | S. R. de Fonseka.     |
|  |   | Gerard A. Joseph.     |
| (g) James Edward Gunasekara: recommended by            | } | C. A. Hewavitarana.   |
|  |   | P. de S. Kularatne.   |
| (h) C. M. M. Abdul Hassan: recommended by              | } | M. A. C. Mohamed.     |
|  |   | A. M. Hamid.          |
| (i) Abdul Majeed Mohamed Cassim: recommended by        | } | M. A. C. Mohamed.     |
|  |   | A. M. Hamid.          |
| (j) Wappo Marikkar Mohamed Hassim: recommended by      | } | M. A. C. Mohamed.     |
|  |   | A. M. Hamid.          |
| (k) Cader Mohideen Mohamed Sahid: recommended by       | } | M. A. C. Mohamed.     |
|  |   | A. M. Hamid.          |
| (l) Cader Mohideen Mohamed Abdul Cader: recommended by | } | M. A. C. Mohamed.     |
|  |   | A. M. Hamid.          |

- |   |   |                   |
|---|---|-------------------|
| (m) Razeen Abdul Cader: recommended by            | } | M. A. C. Mohamed. |
|   |   | A. M. Hamid.      |
| (n) Cader Mohideen Mohamed Hassan: recommended by | } | M. A. C. Mohamed. |
|   |   | A. M. Hamid.      |
| (o) Wytilingam Sathasivam: recommended by         | } | T. B. Russell.    |
|   |   | K. Balasingham.   |
| (p) Richard de Waas Gunawardana: recommended by   | } | W. A. de Silva.   |
|   |   | F. D. Jayasinha.  |

4. A paper entitled "Sinhalese Proverbs," by Mr. J. G. C. Mendis was tabled. It was resolved that the paper be referred to a sub-Committee consisting of Dr. A. Nell, A. Mendis Gunasekara, Mudaliyar, and Dr. C. A. Hewavitarana.

5. A letter dated 11th April, 1919, from the Colonial Secretary, stating that the grant of Rs. 500 to the Society will be resumed from 1919-1920 was tabled.

6. The report of the sub-Committee on Mr. F. Lewis' paper entitled "Monastical Trees in Ceylon" was laid on the table, and it was resolved that Mr. Lewis be asked to give an address to the Society on the subject, the question of publication to be deferred for the present.

7. A letter dated 7th June, 1919, from C. A. Co., re papers standing in type, was read and it was decided to print these papers in the next issues of the Journal.

8. Mr. Bell's suggestion regarding the placing for sale of "Maldivian Linguistic Studies" with some of the leading booksellers in England was discussed and it was resolved to ask such booksellers to sell copies of this publication at 10s. 6d. It was further resolved to ask them to sell copies of D'oyly's Diary.

9. It was resolved that Dr. Pieris' paper on "Nágadípa and Buddhist Remains in Jaffna" be read at the next meeting and that arrangements for the meeting be left in the hands of the Secretaries, and that advance copies of the paper be printed.

10. A letter dated 22nd March, 1919, from the Secretaries of the Working Committee, First Oriental Conference, Poona, on the 30th October to 1st November next, was read and it was resolved that the President and Dr. P. E. Pieris be nominated as representatives of the Society, it being understood that the Society would not be put to any expense by reason of their going to Poona.

NATIONAL LIBRARY SECTION,  
MUNICIPAL LIBRARY SERVICES,  
JAFFNA.



## GENERAL MEETING

Colombo Museum, September 29, 1919

## Present:

His Excellency Sir W. H. Manning, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., C.B.  
Patron, in the Chair.

Sir Ponnambalam Arunáchalam, Kt., M.A., President.

Dr. P. E. Pieris, Litt.D., C.C.S., Vice-President.

Sir Solomon Dias Bandaranaika, Kt.	The Hon'ble Mr. J. H. Meedeniya.
Mr. Walter Dias Bandaranaika, Gate Mudaliyar.	Mr. A. Mendis.
Sir J. Thomson Broom, Kt.	„ A. E. Murrell.
Mr. B. Chas. Cooray, Muhandiram.	„ V. M. Mutukumara Maniagar.
The Venerable Mr. F. H. de Winton.	Dr. A. Nell, M.R.C.S.
Mr. P. Felix Fernando.	Mr. J. P. Obeyesekera, M.A., Mudaliyar.
„ H. R. Gunaratne.	Dr. S. C. Paul, M.D.
„ J. E. Gunasekara.	Mr. T. A. A. Raheem.
„ B. Horsburgh, M.A., C.C.S.	„ Joseph E. Rode.
„ C. W. Horsfall.	„ T. B. Russell, M.A., C.C.S.
„ Sam J. C. Kadiragamar.	„ W. A. Samarasinghe, Mudaliyar.
„ M. K. Kanagasabai.	Revd. R. Sasanalankara.
„ S. B. Kuruppu.	K. Siri Nivasa Bhikkhu.
„ F. Lewis, F.L.S.	The Hon'ble Mr. O. C. Tillekaratne.
„ Leslie Mack.	Mr. F. A. Tisseverasinghe.

Mr. C. H. Collins, B.A., C.C.S., Hony. Secretary.

Visitors: 7 ladies and 12 gentlemen.

1. The minutes of the last General Meeting, held on the 31st March, 1919, were read and confirmed.

2. Dr. P. E. Pieris, Litt.D., M.A., C.C.S., Vice-President, read his paper entitled "Nágadípa and Buddhist Remains in Jaffna" prefacing it with the following introductory remarks.

He said:—Your Excellency, two years ago I read a brief paper of some little archæological interest regarding some of my discoveries in Jaffna. At the time I did not contemplate the possibility that these discoveries would extend further and that it would be necessary to write a second paper, because it seems a pity to break the continuity of the narrative by an interval of two years. In that paper I set out certain theories concerning what I considered the authentic fact of the second visit of the Buddha to

Ceylon. I tried to trace and locate the place at which it is said the Buddha arrived—the capital of Nágadípa. From certain geographical and economical facts I arrived at the conclusion that Nágadípa is somewhere in the Jaffna Peninsula, near the port which was known in those days as Jambukola. I suggested that Jambukola, the great port, must have been somewhere in the neighbourhood of Kangesanturai, and that the site of the capital of Nágadípa must be within a short distance of Kangesanturai. I pointed out that the district at one time, and very naturally, became an important Buddhist centre, and then I traced the history of the Buddhists, whom I considered to be Sinhalese, from century to century, so far as our records would help us. I pointed out how king after king had erected temples from the 5th to the 11th century, and then we came down to the 14th and 15th centuries of the Christian era. In the interval the Sinhalese fell back everywhere, being driven away by the powerful Dravidian forces from South India, who came wave after wave, century after century, spreading distress, ruin and devastation wherever they went till the very name of the Sinhalese disappeared from the North, and nothing seems to have been left but one vast ruin. About the middle of the 14th century, we find a Tamil dynasty established in Jaffna Patam, not at the trivial Jaffna Fort of to-day, but at the ancient capital of Nallur, the City Fair, about three miles from Jaffna. Then I told the story of how the Sinhalese, waxing warlike—in those days they waxed warlike many times—sent an expedition and conquered the Tamil king. It is a period of peculiar interest because we are so fortunate as to have contemporary records of what and what took place in those days—records of remarkable beauty contained in some of the finest poetry that the Sinhalese ever produced. I ventured to translate a couple of these verses. Not long afterwards Sapumal Kumaraya, the conquering Prince, came back to Kótte—to that other desolation, six miles from Colombo, to visit his father or step-father or grandfather, I am afraid to say which because it is a matter of controversy, and we have before us a description of his entry into the royal capital described by an eyewitness, and addressed curiously enough to a bird. Then the Portuguese invaded the country and history ceased to be of interest. To-day all over the North there are traces of the times that the Sinhalese were there. Sinhalese place names still continue to be used; the very industries of the Sinhalese in that country, their religion, their political arrangements, and a variety of similar matters are crystallised in those names, and give us a very interesting side light on the state of things existing may be 2,000 years ago when the Sinhalese were the inhabitants of that country. I went on in my narrative to say how one day, while travelling by train from Jaffna to Chunnákam—another Sinhalese name—I had noticed a peculiar-looking mound—a mound as Your Excellency knows is a most remarkable thing in that remarkable Peninsula where the mean elevation of the country is only six feet above the level of the sea. This mound rose about ten feet. On examining it I found it to be artificial and composed of brick. I soon discovered three miles from Chunnákam Station the remains of an ancient Sinhalese Buddhist village. In my first paper I detailed the result of my enquiries up to that date and discussed the various finds which Your Excellency saw when you were in Jaffna. My narrative to-day will deal with my researches since that paper was read.



## NĀGADĪPA AND BUDDHIST REMAINS IN JAFFNA

BY P. E. PIERIS, LITT. D. (CANTAB.), C.C.S.

### PART II

#### CHAPTER I.

*Where is the place Wadunna Gala situated?*

*Wadunna Gala is situated at Wannia, which is to the South of Naga Diepe.\**

Excavation at Kantaródai stopped with the exhaustion of the sum of Rs. 150 generously placed at my disposal by Government, but certain additional finds have to be recorded.

In a field to the east of the excavations a fragment of a well-moulded slab of *vira kal*, eight inches across, was picked up and was found to be ornamented with a design of *swastikas*. I suggest that the fragment represents four toes of the foot of the Buddha, with the auspicious signs. Compare the *Sri Páda* found at Kotai Keni, and illustrated in our Journal, Vol. XI., p. lxiii.

A stone *kota* was recently dug up close to the spot where the glazed tiles were found, and removed to another place of worship. A singularly fine *kota* of eleven rings, which had been found in this village, was traced to Sudumalai, and secured for the collection. A large circular limestone slab which was found on Dr. Subramaniam's land along with another *kota*, still awaits explanation. The adjoining land yielded a good specimen of the Buddhist railing on a moulded slab.

\* Chief Priest, Mulgirigala, to Gov. I. W. Falck, Upham, Buddhist Tracts, III. 63.

It will be noted that the head of the Buddha shown in Plate IV.\* has the nose fractured. Sir William Twynam has drawn my attention to the fact that all the Buddhas to be found in the Wannia have been similarly mutilated—an undoubted sign, he thinks, of Dravidian invasion.

The large block on the left of Plate IV.\* was described by me as a fragment of a torso, with much hesitation, as neither the lines nor the drapery seemed quite to answer to that description; my son who was in Jaffna for his school vacation has since pointed out to me that it is in reality the top portion of the drapery hanging over the left arm of the Buddha. The massive fold of the drapery appears on the under surface, which had escaped attention. As the width, which is twenty inches, represents the thickness of the stone from which the figure was carved, the height of the image could hardly have been less than twelve or fifteen feet, and would suggest a standing image corresponding in size to the great sedent Buddha.

A morning's visit to Mallákam, another of the villages named in the *Nam Pota*, was not unrewarded. The site of the Buddhist Vihara is still known, and a shallow trench revealed an abundance of good bricks. A Sinhalese pond cut in the rock is in a fair state of preservation, though much neglected; it is still called *Kat Pokanai*, the Tamil form of the Sinhalese *Gal Pokuna*. It is a pity there is no Village Committee which can be entrusted with the upkeep of this interesting and useful remnant of the past. Two fragments of a *Yantra Gala*, with hollows  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " by 4", and 2" deep, formed the only specimens of limestone so far discovered in the village.

Máhiyapiti has also yielded very satisfactory results. In the courtyard of the Mínachchi Amman temple adjoining the sheet of water shewn in Plate VI.,\* a stone

\* Vide Volume XXVI., No. 70, Part I.



*kota* was discovered. The Brahmin drew our attention to another block of stone which was lying near, and on examination this was found to be a much defaced head. The nose and lips have been worn down almost flat, but viewed in a suitable light the expression of the face is unmistakable. The elongation of the right ear may be seen in the illustration, Plate IX.,\* and the head-dress is specially worthy of attention; a similar head-dress is not figured in Gopinath Rao's *Hindu Iconography*. At the back of the slab from which the head rises is a peculiar ornament, consisting of three concentric circles in relief, with a tassel (of pearls?) suspended from the centre. It is perhaps not rash to assign this head to the two feet shewn in Plate VI.

The last of the steps leading down to the water was semi-circular, and had frequently been examined by me, for portions of it were of limestone. As the level of the water sank I arrived at the conclusion that the step consisted of one stone rounded off with cement, and I was much puzzled by a straight line in relief which ran across its entire length. Finally I decided to break up the steps and see if there was anything on the under surface. The Brahmin gave his consent, and our labour was rewarded by the discovery of a remarkably fine body of Buddha (see Plate XI.). The block as it now stands is six feet in height; the feet had been formed of a separate piece and the sockets for the iron supports are visible. When complete the image must have stood  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ' in height. The workmanship is superior to that of the Chunnákam Buddha, the lines of the drapery being much bolder, and the back finished off, instead of being left in the rough. Twenty-six men, with the two great car poles of the temple, were required to raise the stone to the bund of the pond for transport to the Fort.

Facing the two feet, on the opposite side of the flight

\* See end of Volume for Plates VIII.—XVII.

of steps, was a projecting piece of limestone which was next dug up. This was found to be a portion of a fine stone pediment which, in its original state, could not have been less than 6' square. The moulding rises to a height of ten inches above the flat, and the centre is hollowed out to receive a statue or some other similar object. The lip of the hollow seems to have consisted of a lotus petal design. A portion of a segment of a *kota* was found at a well in this village. This is about a foot in depth, and must have been thirty inches in diameter at the base. It is hollowed out on both the upper and lower surfaces, thus making it clear that the *kota* was made in sections. Another *kota* was fished up from a tank in the village, while a particularly fine one is being used as a Pullaiyar. The original site of these remains has not yet been traced, unless it be that it is occupied by the Hindu Temple.

The village of Uduvil is separated from Kantaródai by the old tank, and at the temple at Uduvil I discovered four stone *kot*, two of which I was very kindly allowed to remove, along with a stone ring, the use of which I cannot conjecture.\*

Pulóli is a village two miles from Parittiturai or Point Pedro. In this village is another Putter Kovil Adi, and when I visited the spot several cart loads of bricks had been removed for use in a building on the adjoining land. Only one pillar base was discovered, and that I think had been shifted from its original site, for I could not find any foundation where the stone now stands. But where the bricks are, an extraordinary quantity of tiles are to be found. They are different from any I had previously dug up, as they are unusually long and narrow. They are in such abundance that I was able to remove a clod of earth showing them eight deep and still unbroken.

\* A very similar but ornamented slab, found at Ghantasálá, is figured in *Arch. Sur. of India*, Vol. XV., 1894, Plate XXI.



Rásanáyagam Mudaliyar has referred in his Note to the Tissa Maluwa at Chullipuram. I visited this and went on from there to the Bódi Maluwa at Jambul Turai. The site of the dágoba and vihára are easily to be traced near the sea, and as usual the dágoba is being used as a quarry, and I suppose will continue to be so used till the last stone and last brick are removed. I think there is a great deal to be said for the identification of Jambul thurai with Jambukola, as suggested by the Mudaliyar; there is a startling similarity in the names, and the place is just a few miles to the west of Kangesanturai.

In this connection I would draw attention to the quotation at the head of this Chapter, which proves that about 1766 the priests of Mulgirigala were under the impression that the Wannu was to the south of Nága Dípa, or in other words that Nága Dípa was Jafana Pattanam.

I must not omit to record the fact that the expenses connected with securing the finds mentioned in this chapter were very generously provided by Mr. W. A. de Silva. With this money they have been properly arranged and fixed up in a spare room adjoining the Jaffna Library, where they are attracting much attention from the crowds who daily collect round the Law Courts. I hope the Council of the Colombo Museum will take over their custody, though at the same time they should not be removed from Jaffna.

Before finishing with the subject of the stone remains, it might be as well to place on record the fact of the discovery of certain lithic Tamil inscriptions. Of these the first was found at Nainativu; the stone containing the inscription has been deliberately broken in two, and the lower half utilised in building the adjoining temple. The remaining portion is, roughly, four feet long and two and a half feet broad, and was originally inscribed on both sides. On the obverse only a few letters can be deciphered, in consequence of the rough usage to which the

stone has been exposed; but twenty-three lines appear in good condition on the reverse. According to Rásanáyagam Mudaliyar they refer to the trade of the port of Uráthurai (Kayts); the transport of elephants and of horses by sea; and the rights of the king over wrecks. The Ordinance was to be recorded on copper and stone.

Two fragments of apparently a much older inscription were found let into the floor of a house in the Pettah. These have been removed to the little Museum. The inscription was originally on a square pillar, which has been cleft in two by means of wedges. The result is that only half lines appear on two sides, and complete lines only on the third. The attempt to obtain a reading of this inscription from Madras has so far been unsuccessful.

Another very ancient Tamil inscription is contained on the stone lintel of a house within a few yards of the Library. The owner kindly agreed to allow me to remove this, but I could not make the necessary arrangements to do so. The fourth inscription is also on a column, which unfortunately is being used as a sort of altar at a temple at Udumpiray.

## CHAPTER II.

### COINS

Walking through Kantaródai one morning, I noticed some freshly opened coconut pits; I entered the enclosure and examined the loose earth and soon picked up some perforated red discs, such as have been found at Tissamaharáma and Anurádhapura. I also found a fragment of a cornelian ornament, six-tenths of an inch in length, pierced with three parallel holes bored, according to the ancient fashion, from either side, and meeting unevenly in the middle. A girl brought to me two little discs of



copper, thickly coated with verdigris, which I soon recognised as Roman coins; she explained that she had found them in the clay with which she was preparing the floor of her father's house. The name of the girl is Rája Lakshmi; let her be remembered as the discoverer of the first Roman coins recorded as found in the Peninsula.

Following up this clue I took certain action as the result of which I have secured a number of coins of no little interest; and though my knowledge of the subject is strictly limited, I have no alternative under existing circumstances but to take on myself the task of describing these finds.

1. *Puránas*. The following quotation from Sir A. Cunningham's *Coins of Ancient India* will be helpful to those who are not familiar with the subject, in understanding what these coins are:

"The earliest coinage of the ancient world would appear to have been chiefly of silver and electrum, the latter metal being confined to Asia Minor, and the former to Greece and India. By the silver coinage of India I refer to the thousands of square silver pieces which are found all over the country. As all these pieces are stamped with several dies or punches, on one or both faces, they have received the descriptive name of Punch-marked coins. In the Hindu books they are called *purana*, or "old," a title which vouches for their antiquity. They are mentioned by Manu and Panini, both anterior to Alexander, and also in the Buddhist Sutras, which are of about the same age." pp. 19-20.

"The mode of fabrication is evident at once from an inspection of the coins. A piece of silver was first beaten out into a flat plate of about the thickness of a shilling, or somewhat thicker in later times. Narrow strips of about half an inch or more in width were then cut off. Each strip was then cut into separate pieces of the same weight, of about 56 grains, and a final adjustment of the weight was made by cutting small bits off one or more corners of the heavier blanks. The marks of the chisel still remain on the edges of the thicker pieces, which were broken off when the cut did not go clean through the strip of metal. The earliest specimens are generally thin and broad, and of irregular shape. Some are oblong and some are nearly round, but all are light in weight, and are usually very much worn. How old these punch-marked coins may be it is difficult to say. They were certainly current in the time of the Buddha, that is, in the sixth century B.C. But I see no difficulty in thinking that they might mount as high as 1,000 B.C." p. 43.

The symbols employed are considered to have been impressed by the authority responsible for the correctness and purity of the coins. More than two hundred and

fifty of these symbols are depicted in an article on "Punch-marked coins of Hindustan" by Mr. W. Theobald. (*Jour. Bomb. Asiatic Soc.*, 1890.) These coins were of three sizes, the largest weighing 57.6 grains, with its half named the Kona, and its quarter, the Tangka or Padika. Though numerous in India, the coin has not often been met with in Ceylon.

I secured thirty-five of them from Kantaródai, and two from Vallipuram. The Kantaródai lot belong to all the three classes, the bulk being of silver, a few copper coated with silver, and two being the rare copper issue. They represent all stages of use, the die-marks being quite clear and fresh in some, and quite worn out in others. In some the chisel marks are very clear and sharp, and among the commonest of the designs are the rayed sun, the *chaitya*, and the so-called caduceus. These are the first *Puránas* recorded as found in the Peninsula, and their variety of shape is best seen by reference to Plate XII., Nos. 2-9 and 11-17.

The collector in Ceylon sometimes, and very rarely, comes across a large Japanese gold coin, which is said to have been brought into Ceylon in the later years of the Hollanders. It is interesting to note that on the reverse of this coin are to be found a series of punch-marks, some of which closely resemble those on the *Puránas*.

2. It is to me a matter of doubt whether an antiquity even greater than that of the *Puránas* should not be ascribed to another series of coins. These latter are of copper and bear traces of having once been heavily coated with silver. In shape they are square or oblong, with a distinct concavity on one surface (Plate XII., Nos. 18, 19, 21, 22 and 26). They show no traces of design, and it is probable that they never bore any; eighteen of these have been found at Kantaródai.

Ten similar copper coins are mentioned by Mr. Still (Jr., C. B. R. A. S., XIX., 201) as having been found in



the excavations at Anurádhapura. To this group I assign a circular copper coin,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, with a well-marked concavity and bearing clear traces of silvering. (Plate XII., No. 20.)

### 3. Tree and *swastika*.

In the natural order of sequence, the *puranas* would be followed by the coins on which the symbols contained in the punch marks appear as die stamps. First of this group I place an interesting series which does not appear to have been previously found in Ceylon. The obverse shows a tree within a railing, with subsidiary symbols on the available ground on either side. On the reverse is a *swastika* mounted on a staff and railed, with subsidiary symbols. As will be seen on reference to Plate XIV., Nos. 2-6, 9, 12, 13 and 18, these coins are of all shapes and sizes, and this variety is maintained in the trees and the form of the railing as well. Mr. Rapsom (*Indian Coins*, Plate I., 16) has reproduced a copper coin of Agathocles, a Graeco-Indian Prince who lived B.C. 190-160, the obverse of which shows a tree and railing identical with those on the Ceylon coins. The reverse shows a *caitya* or conventional *dágoba*, as also appears on some of them.

Mr. Dodwell, the Acting Superintendent of the Madras Museum, is of opinion that these are Buddhist coins of the second or third century B.C. He adds that similar coins have been found in villages on both sides of the rivers Vaigai and Tambraparni in South India.

4. Among Mr. Parker's finds at Tissamaharama (see *Jr.*, C. B. R. A. S., Vol. VIII., pages 145 and 153) was a large double die circular coin with various symbols.

Mr. Still has dealt with this coin (*Jr.*, C. B. R. A. S., XIX., 201) and he mentions the fact that about fifty of the series have been found since. I obtained from Kantaródai specimens (Plate XIII., Nos. 1, 2 and 3) none of them being perfect, together with several fragments.

A coin with a similar agglomeration of symbols is shown by Cunningham (Plate V., 7) as from Kosambi, an ancient city near Allahabad, and is attributed by Rapsom (p. 12) to the third century B.C. Mr. Still refers to a damaged specimen which he considers to be a quarter *pana* of this series. I have secured two such specimens in excellent order (Plate XIV., No. 1). They are of the same type as the larger coins, but the main symbols are the tree and the *swastika*. The larger of the two closely resembles No. 16, in Cunningham (Plate V.), which Rapsom attributes to the second and first centuries B.C.

5. The large copper coin (Plate XIII., 5) when found showed no sign of any design on it and was nearly being consigned to the pile of waste copper. Careful treatment revealed the fact that it was a coin or medal of much interest. In appearance and size it is curiously reminiscent of the unique Dekadrachm of Alexander which is at the British Museum, and which shows on the reverse a warrior on horseback attacking another on an elephant (see V. A. Smith's *Early History of India*, Plate II., No. 1). The reverse of the coin is shown in the Plate, and represents the hind legs of a charging horse, two dots, and a square divided into quarters, all within a double circle. On the obverse, within a single circle, can be seen a square within a semicircle, the base of a raised *swastika*, and very faintly, a *caitya*. The coin is much worn.

6. The square copper Indian coins were of sufficient antiquity for them to be imitated by the Greek Princes of the second century B.C.

“The unit of the old copper-money was the *pana* or *karsha pana*, which, according to Manu, was equal to one *karsha* or 80 *raktikas* of copper in weight.” (Cunningham, p. 45.) The *karsha* is the Sinhalese *aralu*, and the *raktika* is the *olinda*, which is still in use among



goldsmiths as a weight. This copper series ran thus:—

$\frac{1}{16}$ Pana	9 grains
$\frac{1}{8}$ „ or Ardha Kakini	18 „
$\frac{1}{4}$ „ or Kakini	36 „
$\frac{1}{2}$ „ or Ardha Pana	72 „
$\frac{3}{4}$ „	108 „
Pana	144 „
$1\frac{1}{4}$ Pana	180 „
2 Panas or Divi Pana	288 „

A singularly beautiful and interesting series of these coins has been obtained by me from Kantaródai. (Plate XIII., Nos. 11, 12, 8 and 9). No. 11 weighs 182 grains. On the obverse in prominent relief is a finely designed elephant facing right, towards a flagstaff within a railing. Over the head of the elephant is a circular temple or house on pillars, very much reminding one of the cattle sheds found on the tobacco fields of Jaffna. To the right of this is a square device which I cannot explain. To the left is a *caitya* of three arches and below that is a part of a device which is imperfect, but which, judging from the other coins, should be a tree. The whole field is enclosed by a raised edge. On the reverse, there is a raised edge with a border of double lines, enclosing the symbol



A coin showing very similar characteristics, specially the elephant and the building, is figured in Cunningham (Plate IV., 2). That is a coin of Odumbara, a country between the Ravi and the Bias, and Cunningham assigns it to about 100 B.C. Tuffnell (*Hints to Coin Collectors*) illustrates (Plate I., 2) a coin with an elephant on the obverse and the same reverse as my coins, and states that such are found in Madura, the early capital of the Pandyan. These coins are ascribed to a period ending c. 300 A.D. (Rapsom, p. 35). Mr. Dodwell suggests that they are “coins of old Pandyan kings who

were ruling at Korkai in the early centuries of the Christian Era.” The weight of No. 12 is 208 grains.

It will be noticed that there is a variation in the symbols on my large coins. These are accompanied by a smaller series with the same symbol on the reverse. Two weighing 29.7 and 20.1 grains respectively, show on the obverse the temple (Plate XIII., No. 7). One shows an elephant (Plate XIII., No. 10), another an elephant and railed tree, another a humped bull, railed tree and *caitya* (Plate XIV. No. 10), and another a railed tree and *caitya* (Plate XIV., No. 11). There is still another square coin which has been reduced by my unskilful cleaning from 180 to 158.8 grains, which shows among other marks a *caitya*. I think this should be placed in the same class.

7. Four small coins, representing two sizes, show on the obverse a well-executed and prominent elephant within a square, and on the reverse a mounted *swastika* (Plate XIV., No. 20). I attribute these coins also to the Pandyan.

8. “Ujain is one of the most ancient cities of India. Much of its importance was derived from its selection by the Hindu astronomers as their first meridian. In the beginning of the third century it was the residence of Asoka, as Governor of Malwa, under his father Bindusara, King of Pataliputra” (Cun., 94). The coins of Ujain were distinguished by a peculiar symbol on the reverse; this consisted of a cross with a circle at the end of each limb. One such circular coin has been discovered at Kantaródai; it was at first considered by me to be a fragment of rusted iron, but was fortunately cleaned and revealed within a copper coin. This shows on the obverse an elephant facing right, while above is an inscription in Asokan Brahmi which has been tentatively read by one of Sir John Marshall’s Office Assistants, as *Savaha*.\* On the reverse is the Ujain symbol (Plate XIV., No. 22).

Digitized by Noolaham Foundation. \* Mr. H. W. Codrington has read this as *Sáta Kapisa*, which he identifies with *Sri Rúdra Sáta Karpi*.



9. Lakshmi and *swastika*.

In 1884 Mr. Parker announced his discovery at Tis-samaharâma of certain copper coins bearing a human figure and a *swastika* (Jr. C. B. R. A. S., No. 27, 1884). Round these there has been much controversy, and the opinion has been expressed that they are not coins at all, and they have been designated plaques. I think my discoveries at Kantarodai have settled the dispute.

Mr. Still in 1907 (Jr. C. B. R. A. S., XIX., p. 208) referred to what he described as three barrel-shaped cast plaques found near the Túpârâma at Anurâdhapura. This is the first reference to a type of coin of which a potful was discovered some time back at Chilaw. In the meanwhile Kantarôdai was yielding specimens of this issue in extraordinary variety. The Chilaw find consisted, so far as I can learn, of one large type, made out of an inferior and brittle alloy of copper. The figure is of somewhat inferior make, bold but not graceful, and the lines of the design on both faces undoubtedly heavy. Those found in the North are singularly artistic and of good workmanship, while the metal, though largely mixed with lead, is in no way brittle.

The obverse of the coin represents a full-length female figure. On the ears are heavy round earrings, the *hakra kundala*. The breasts are full and prominent; in some cases round the hips, but below the navel, which is clearly marked, is a jewelled zone, the *kati bandha*, with the end hanging down on the left. The legs are well moulded and there are anklets on each. At first sight the figure appears to be nude; that would have been very un-Eastern in conception, and as a matter of fact closer examination reveals the lines which represent the conventional folds of the cloth just as they are shown in early Egyptian sculpture. The arms hang down and are adorned with bracelets, *kankana*. Each hand grasps the long stalk of a vine, which springs up near the feet.

This branches off at the base into a smaller stalk, terminating in a bud, while the main stalk finishes in an open flower at the level of the shoulder. On these upper flowers are seated two elephants holding their trunks archwise over the head of the figure. The representation is, of course, that of Lakshmi or Sri, the Goddess of Wealth, Chief Consort of Vishnu, who sprang from the Ocean when it was churned to obtain the ambrosia of the gods. She is usually represented with two elephants pouring water over her from two pots. This is a Brahmanical Vaishnava symbol.

The reverse is occupied by a bold *swastika*, railed and mounted on a staff, so as to occupy the full length of the field. There is variation in the form of the rail, as well as in the manner in which the *swastika* is struck. There are also certain subsidiary emblems on the reverse.

Plate XV. will convey some idea of the variety of these coins which have been found. Those from Kantarôdai number about seventy-five perfect specimens, and vary in weight from 10 grains to 83 grains; a few of the larger type have been obtained from Vallipuram. Fragments have been found in large quantities. The edges in nearly all cases are well worn and rounded by use. Only a glance is required to satisfy anyone that these were coins and were never meant to be anything else.

These coins show signs of Greek influence and I think I have traced their probable origin. The earliest of the Saka dynasties of India was that of Maves, whose date is not later than 120 B.C. Some of his coins were directly imitated from the coins of the earlier Greek Princes, and Mr. Rapsom (*Indian Coins*, page 7; also Plate I., No. 15) has figured a copper coin of his on the reverse of which appears a female figure, standing between two flowering vines which spring up at her feet and rise as high as her head, and which she is holding. I suggest that the Ceylon coins are imitated from these.



Following the original Lakshmis, as I propose to call these coins, came two series of copies in, apparently, pure copper. It is a well-recognised rule that there is a strong tendency to deterioration in the artistic merits of successive issues of Eastern coins, and that is well exemplified in the present instance. The first series displays a fair degree of merit, and is oblong in shape, the figure not badly designed, and the metal of substantial thickness. Of this a dozen perfect specimens have been found at Kantaródai, and three at Vallipuram. The second series is stamped on thin copper, in some cases as thin as paper of medium thickness, irregularly chiselled out of a large sheet, with the figure very clumsily executed. A few perfect specimens of this series and a large quantity of fragments, have been found at Kantaródai. The coins discovered by Mr. Parker, and the bulk of those discussed by Mr. Still, belong to these two series. With them should be classed a solitary specimen (the last on Plate XV.) stamped on a square of copper diagonally, with unusual accessory symbols.

With a few very rare examples the arms of the *swastika* indicate movement in the same direction as the hands of a clock. Both kinds are shown in the Plate. The length of the longest coin in my collection is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches, and the breadth of the broadest is  $\frac{7}{10}$  inch.

I have treated the first issue, as I consider it, of the Lakshmi coins as being of copper. In view of Mr. Rae's analysis given below\* that description is misleading.

\* Report on the Analysis of Two Fragments of Coin sent by  
Dr. P. E. Pieris

Both coins were much corroded and were easily broken in the fingers; the first one (A) appeared to consist of two halves pressed together, the second one (B) consisted of a single piece. Both coins were leaden coloured with raised marks on each side and when

The coins are of lead with a small proportion of copper. Leaden coins in abundance have been found in South India. They belong to the early centuries of the Christian Era. One such lead coin, very much worn, containing on one face the figure of a lion, has been found at Kantaródai. In Ceylon, at a later date, coins of this metal were issued by the Portuguese and by the Hollanders.

10. Of cast coins I have one small thick specimen (Plate XIV., No. 7) weighing 36.4 grains. It is square

a broken section was examined appeared to be homogeneous throughout.

The specific gravity of coin A was found to be 8.56 by weighing in air and water at 29.5° C.

The ratio of lead to copper was determined for the outer parts of A and B and for the inner part of B with the object of seeing if the lead is used as a coating on the copper; the results of these three analyses were:—

Outer coat of A ( $\frac{1}{13}$ th of weight of coin used.)	Outer coat of B ( $\frac{1}{5}$ th of weight of coin used.)	Inner part of B ( $\frac{4}{5}$ ths of weight of coin used.)	
1.7 per cent.	2.0 per cent.	0.25 per cent.	Silica
56.3 ..	59.6 ..	60.0 ..	Lead
13.8 ..	13.8 ..	15.1 ..	Copper
4.08	4.33	3.97	Ratio of lead to copper.

The analysis of the whole of coin B weighing 1.395 grams gave

Lead	...	59.93 per cent.
Copper	...	14.84 ..
Silica	...	0.62 ..
Iron	...	0.14 ..
Nickel		a trace

75.53

Tin was not detected. The ratio of lead to copper was 4.04. There is therefore very little difference between the outer coat and the inner part of the coins, which seem to be made of an alloy of copper and lead rather than of copper coated with lead.—W. N. RAE,  
21st April, 1918.



and bevelled so that the upper surface is larger than the lower. On the former appears a *chaitya* and on the latter a tree. The coin clearly shows where it had been broken off from the rest of the cast. It somewhat resembles No. 29 on Plate I. Cunningham.

11. A peculiar thick small coin bears on the obverse a very rough figure of a man and on the reverse two thick raised parallel lines (Plate XIV., No. 21). A similar coin found at Taxila is figured in *A. S. I. Rep.* 1915-16, Plate XXV., No. 28, where it is doubtfully classed as Indo-Sasanian.

12. The coins of the Pallavas bear the emblem of a maned lion. Of these I have three of two sizes, all bearing on the reverse a circle enclosing three dots (Plate XIV., No. 23).\* With them I place a much larger coin of poorer execution (Plate XIV., No. 27), bearing on one side a lion very similar to that on the Pallava silver coin figured by Rapsom, Plate V., No. 16; on the reverse of this is a large branched tree. There are subsidiary symbols on both sides. I have also a beautiful thick small coin (Plate XIV., No. 19) with a similar lion and a triangular emblem on the obverse, and a *swastika* on the reverse, which is probably a Pallava of the second and third centuries A.D. (see *Rapsom*, p. 37).

13. The Pallavas and the Kurumbar are mixed up. The latter flourished before the 7th century A.D. To them Tuffnel ascribes certain thin coins with a humped bull on one side and a *chakra* on the other; of this variety I have two worn-out square coins (Plate XIV., No. 14). To the same series belong the thicker issue, which is represented in the Colombo Museum and are there marked as Kurumbar. These seem to be more recent and are of good workmanship and I have secured two specimens of them of two sizes (Plate XIV., Nos. 15 and 16). On the

\* Mr. H. W. Codrington, C.C.S., is of opinion that these coins are Sinhalese in origin.

obverse is a standing humped bull, in one facing right and in the other facing left, within squares of lines and dots. The reverse contains, within three such squares, a circle enclosing three dots.

14. So late as 1907 Mr. Still was able to say (Jr. C. B. R. A. S., XIX., No. 58, p. 163) that no Roman coins had been recorded as found in Jaffna; my search at Kantaródai yielded more satisfactory results, for no less than 150 such coins have been acquired by me. They are in all stages of wear, a few of them showing but slight traces of use, while the bulk are completely worn out. Roman coins are common in Ceylon, and the majority of them belong to the third and fourth centuries A.D. Among those found by me Mr. Codrington has identified coins of Constantine the Great (306-337 A.D.), Theodosius I. (379-395), and Arcadius, (395-408), while he attributes forty coins to the period from Valentinian to Theodosius II. (see Plate XII., Nos. 27-38).

One solitary Roman coin was picked up by me at the site of the explorations; that was the one piece of metal found there. A few were obtained from Vallipuram, and among these must be included the coin shown in Plate XII., No. 1, which is a fine "Indo-Roman" probably copied from a coin of Constantine; on the reverse this coin is noteworthy for its peculiar richly toned patina.

15. In early times the three great Dravidian races of the South were the Pandyan, the Cheras and the Cholas. The Pandyan have already been mentioned. Their early device of the elephant was subsequently changed for the fish, and their coins bearing this latter emblem have been attributed to the period from the 7th to the 10th centuries A.D. To them should probably be ascribed the copper coin (Plate XIV., No. 17) which shows a recumbent bull on the obverse and two fish on the reverse, one specimen of which was found in Kantaródai.



After 1022 A.D., the coins of the Cholas contain the standing and seated representations of a King, which are found in the Polonnaruwa coins (*Rapsom*, p. 36). I have found three such coins, of three sizes, all flat on the side on which the standing figure appears, and convex on the other. On this latter side appears the legend *Sétu* (Plate XIV., No. 28).

A further series of the *Sétu* coins are those which contain a recumbent bull. I have obtained four varieties of these from Kantaródai and Vallipuram. In three the bull and the legend both appear on the obverse, while on the reverse is the standing figure of the King (Plate XIV., No. 30). In one beautiful small specimen the bull is on one side and on the other the legend, within a lotus formed as a flourish from the second letter (Plate XIV., No. 24).

16. As is well known, the later Sinhalese domination of Jaffna is evidenced by large finds of coins of the Polonnaruwa issue, as many as two hundred being found at a time. Kantaródai and Vallipuram have yielded:—

3 Lion coins of Parákrama Báhu (Plate XIV., No. 29).

3 massas of Parákrama Báhu.

1 of Sri Dammásoka Déva.

1 of Buwanaika Báhu.

2 of Srimat Sáhasa Malla.

1 of Sri Rája Liláwati.

The choicest of the series was picked up by my son as he walked along the sands of Vallipuram. It is a peculiarly beautiful specimen of the very rare one-eighth massa of Parákrama Báhu (Plate XIV., No. 8), and is of nearly the same weight as the more crudely executed Museum specimen.

These represent the coinage of the 11th, 12th and 13th centuries of the Christian era, but are too well known to require further description.

17. The period of Portuguese supremacy in Jaffna extended from about 1624 to 1658. Their domination is

represented by one small copper coin without any legend (Plate XII., No. 23). On the obverse this shows the crowned arms of Portugal within dotted and linear circles, and on the reverse an armillary sphere within similar circles. The coin is unworn and I am not aware of any other similar coin being previously discovered in Ceylon. It is probably a *dinheiro* or a *bazarucco*.

18. Dutch copper coins are well represented by finds from both Kantaródai and Vallipuram. The most numerous belong to the early thick issue of stivers with a wreath on obverse and reverse. These coins do not merit separate description. Of them Captain Tufnell has remarked as follows: "When one looks at these rude caricatures of coins and then compare them with the clear-cut issues of the Moghuls and Pathans struck centuries before, fine in design and exquisite in workmanship, with every letter well defined and clear, one can hardly believe that we were posing among them as a civilised and civilising power." p. 49.

Of the early Ceylon issue, I have secured seven specimens, representing the stiver, quarter, and eighth. Of the later thick issue I have found one specimen, from the Jaffna Mint. But I have over twenty-five of the Pulicat issue, chiefly of the lowest denomination (Plate XII., Nos. 24 and 25). This is significant of the isolation of the Peninsula from the rest of the Island, and of its trade with South India. Of the thin challies and half challies issued in Europe half a dozen were found.

19. Of the later South Indian issues I have a few specimens which I have not been able definitely to identify (see Plate XII., No. 10; Plate XIV., Nos. 25 and 26). Of these No. 25 is probably a Madura issue, and No. 26 appears to contain a representation of Buddha's Footprint, with an inscription on the obverse.

There are certain other coins with an elephant and apparently the letter *Sri*, which seem to be Canarese. I



have also a few large fragments of square coins of a curious thickness, approaching  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch. These are ancient, but I am unable to offer any suggestion regarding them.

20. A few English copper coins of the last century bring the numismatic tale of Yápá Patuna from anywhere before B.C. 500 up to the present day.

### CHAPTER III

*Utuntur aut aere aut nummo aureo aut taleis ferreis ad certum pondus examinatis pro nummo.*—CÆSAR DE BEL. GAL. V., 12.

In my first paper I had occasion to remark on the absence of specimens of metal at the excavation. That remark will not apply to the rest of my search, for such remains have been found in abundance. First I should place the specimens of

#### COPPER.

These include the image of some deity six inches in height; its right hand is in the *abhaya hasta*, or pose of protection, and the left in the *varada hasta*, conferring a boon. See Plate X., No. 1. There is also a figure which looks like a mediæval European devil (Plate X., No. 2). These probably are not antique, though they are old; but several pounds weight of ancient fragments have been collected. What is especially remarkable is the quantity of the fragments of the Lakshmi coins. There were nails of various shapes from  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " downwards in length. There were fragments of bracelets and rings, and Vallipuram yielded quite a series of tiny bells. There were ingots of copper of various sizes, and a series of round pellets which would almost suggest that they had been weighed out to be struck into coins. It is the fact that the oldest form of copper coin is supposed to have been a round

ingot, somewhat depressed by the impact of an obscure sign above. (Elliott, *Coins of Southern India*, p. 58.) There were fragments of various small utensils and ornaments, a few of which are shown in Plate XVI. and among them was the handle of the type of the well-known Sinhalese ornamental dagger.

Perhaps the most interesting were a series of copper rods, shown in Plate VIII. All these came from Kantaródai, except two which were found at Vallipuram. I do not think it is reasonable to suggest that this series is the result of an accident. Two copper rods of the same shape,  $5\frac{3}{8}$ " and  $4\frac{3}{4}$ " in length respectively, were found at Taxila, which according to Arrian was a great and flourishing city in the days of Alexander the Great, and are figured in the *A. S. I. Report*, 1912-13, Plate XXIV. The half of another is now in the Colombo Museum; it is not labelled but probably was found at Anuradhapura. Is it possible that they were used as coins, in the same manner as the rods described by Cæsar in the quotation at the head of this Chapter?\*

#### IRON

fragments were numerous, and so were the traces of iron works. In this case it is not possible to distinguish between the ancient and the non-ancient.

#### LEAD

was rare. The finds included several circular pieces which were probably used for earrings (Plate XVI.,

\* Since this paper was read my son has sent me valuable information from Cambridge. "I have found out," he writes, "what those metal bars you discovered at Jaffna, are. They are called *kohl* sticks and were used by the Egyptians 2000 B.C. for applying paint with. They have been found in vases together with the paint, and I came across them in the Egyptian Gallery at the Fitz William Museum. All the different kinds of beads—crystal, amethyst, clay, etc.—are Egyptian too, but they have not got your flat circular greenish and red clay ones." The illustrations sent by him prove the correctness of his identification, and when taken in conjunction with the Isis figure described under "Terra Cotta" he appears to have discovered a new direction for the research of the student of history.



6, 10), as well as an ornament two inches long curved like the top of a Bishop's staff, with a knob above, (Plate XVI., 4). This last was found in a mound among a mass of ancient tiles. In view of the abundance of leaden coins, the small quantity of this metal which has been found gives rise to certain inferences regarding the origin of the coins.

I mentioned in my first paper that fragments of

#### GOLD

are still picked up in certain spots; I have been able to secure some of these, varying from the size of a pin's head, to a crescent half an inch across. They are all of beautiful red Indian gold, beaten very thin, and are portions of broken ornaments.

There were also a couple of rubies and a couple of beautifully polished garnets, one perforated to be used as a pendant, and of ancient style. There was also a lump of apparently the same enamel or glaze which had been applied to the blue tiles mentioned in my first paper, thus indicating that the manufacture of the glaze was carried on locally. Silver was represented by a few fragments of diminutive size. Of

#### TERRA COTTA

there was a well-finished utensil shaped like a funnel, four inches in length. There were also two excellent specimens of sealings (Plate XVI., 2, 3). One shows the humped bull, and the other a lion and two other symbols. Seals were used by Princes, ministers and officials, primarily for marking letters, while the impressions from them were used as passports. In sealing letters the moist clay was laid over the cord and sealed, and the sealing then exposed to heat. These two specimens bear on the back the impression of the cords (see *A. S. I.*, 1911-12, pp. 45-6).

Perhaps as interesting as anything is the terra cotta figure of a woman carrying a child (Plate XVI., 1) which

was picked up in a rice field. This figure is three inches in height and appears to have been coloured white at one time. The wearing out of the prominences has given the features of the mother a peculiarly simian appearance. A very similar pottery figure is illustrated by Professor Flinders Petrie (*Egypt and Israel*, Ed. 1912, fig. 52). That is a later Egyptian figure of Isis the Mother nursing Horus the Child. The worship of Isis, Queen of Heaven, Mother of God, and Patroness of sailors, grew immensely in popularity under Roman influence, and her altars are found scattered from Yorkshire to the southern limits of Algiers. It may be that the Kantarodai figure represents the Egyptian divinity, and was brought to Jaffna in the same manner as the Roman coins. Of

#### POTTERY

the quantity found was immense and included the circular fragments which Mr. Parker found at Tissamaharama, and which were probably employed as playthings by children. In bone there was one long dice, marked on three faces (Plate XVI., 5). There was an almost entire absence of chank ornaments. There were two specimens of marble or alabaster ornaments, one about nine inches in length, the uses of which I cannot suggest.

The most beautiful portion of my finds consisted of the wonderful collection of

#### BEADS.

It is difficult to give a verbal description of these. They vary in size from a large pin's head to more than an inch in length. (Plate XVII.). A few of the largest are of pottery and clumsily made. One or two appear to be of jade, and some of coral. There is a damaged oblong specimen of bone, which is classed among the beads as it is perforated to be strung. Garnet beads are abundant and all of them well polished. Some are beautifully turned spherules, the largest being nearly 3/10 of an inch in diameter; some



are oblong, some faceted, some in the rough, and some merely perforated discs. In white topaz, amethyst, agate, cornelian, and water crystal, the variety in size and shape is remarkable. The largest of the topazes is 8/10 of an inch in diameter. The cornelians show many variations of the drum shape. One oblong specimen has four perforations, and another has six; these were probably used for what would now be called a dog-collar. There is an astonishing abundance of glass beads, the majority opaque and some transparent or semi-transparent. Nearly all the colours are beautiful, the greens, yellows and reds being especially so. There are large beads of the deepest indigo, so deep as to appear opaque till held against the light. These are covered with a silvery iridescent coating such as is found in ancient Egyptian glass. White beads are rare, and some of them have a golden coating. Several are variegated in a curious fashion. The red discs which first led me to look for beads are exceptionally abundant and are of different sizes and shades of red. Mr. Rae has been so good as to have these analysed for me in England and I give below Dr. Mellor's analysis.\*

\* I have received Dr. MELLOR's Report on the beads; he finds

Silica	..	SiO <sub>2</sub>	..	57.90%
Alumina	..	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	..	7.18%
Ferric oxide	..	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	..	2.28%
Magnesia	..	Mg. O	..	1.85%
Lime	..	Ca. O	..	3.44%
Potash	..	K ; O	..	6.04%
Soda	..	Na . O	..	3.94%
Sulphurtrioxide	..	So <sub>3</sub>	..	0.48%
Copper oxide	..	Cu. O	..	17.33%

He remarks that there is some difficulty with the copper in that some is probably present as colloidal metal, some as cuprous oxide and some as cupric oxide.

W. A. RAE

Actg. Professor of Chemistry

The beads formed out of the semi-precious crystals I have mentioned above were made in Jaffna itself, from imported material. Fragments have been found showing the whole process leading down from the natural crystal through the roughly fashioned block to the unperforated but polished bead. As to the glass, it is now proved that glass beads were made in Ceylon, but I hesitate to make the assertion that they were made in the Peninsula itself, though there is reason to believe that they were so made. I have found both unperforated and also unseparated glass beads.

It will be seen that the village of Kantarodai has no reason to be ashamed of its contribution towards the increase of our knowledge regarding the ancient history of our Island. It stands to reason that a country which is only thirty miles from India, and which would have been seen by the Indian fishermen every morning as they sailed out to catch their fish, would have been occupied as soon as the continent was peopled by men who understood how to sail. I suggest that the North of Ceylon was a flourishing settlement, centuries before Wijayo was born. I consider it proved that at any rate such was its condition before the commencement of the Christian Era. I hope we have heard the last of the Lyre of Jaffna.

What is the explanation of this abundance of ancient coins in a petty village? The Jaffna man would not of choice have walked about with a hole in his purse. I suggest that those sand-dunes which attracted the attention of Manimékalai in the second century of the Christian Era will afford a clue. As is well known, the soil consists of a thin layer of sand resting on a basis of coral or lime stone. The mean elevation of the Peninsula is only six feet above sea level, rising at one or two points to a maximum of about thirty feet. Across this, for several months in the year, the wind blows unceasingly day and



night, raising up the thin sand in irritating clouds. As a result of this erosion the more elevated patches where my finds were mainly collected, became more and more denuded of the outer covering, and all heavy particles deposited in varying ages were collected in one stratum. This is well illustrated in the case of the large stony tract called Kat Povulum (Sin. *Gal Pahura*), near Vallipuram. This is an extensive stretch of rock bare of sand, and is just a few inches above the normal level of the sea which adjoins; and in the crevices of this rock beads, pieces of pottery, etc., are to be found in quantities.

I hope I have sufficiently demonstrated the fact that neglected Jaffna is not unworthy of the attention of an archæologist. When again a trained man is placed in charge of the work in Ceylon, I hope he will not ignore the Tamil districts. I venture to express the conviction that the Archæology of Ceylon cannot be understood, and should not be studied, apart from the Archæology of India; and that it is a pity that the great knowledge and experience which is available in India, should not be taken advantage of in the work here.

It would be ungrateful on my part not to remember those who had assisted me in my work. They were a dozen little Tamil boys and girls of Kantaródai, captained by a particularly zealous and intelligent school-boy, Selvaráyan. The Vallipuram finds were collected for me by M. Michaelpillai, Registrar of Puloly; while the Government assisted by occasionally placing a motor car at my disposal.

3. Sir P. Arunáhalam—being called on by His Excellency—said he would leave the very interesting coins that had been discovered by Dr. Pieris to be dealt with by numismatists. There was one point which needed clearing up and that was as to whether the remains unearthed by Dr. Pieris, and which belonged to a period of about 2,000 years ago, were the remains of Sinhalese or of Tamil civilisation. Nothing had been discovered by Dr. Pieris to throw light on that point. Dr. Pieris was inclined to think that it was Sinhalese civilisation, but he ventured to doubt this. For some centuries before and after the beginning of the Christian era, the Tamils were largely Buddhists.

The classical Tamil literature of that time was Buddhistic and the beautiful poem that Dr. Pieris had referred to, the *Manimekhalá*, was one of the classics of that period. The total disappearance of Buddhism from among the Tamils, and in fact from the whole of India, where it had originated, was one of the most striking historical events that have occurred in the world.

4. His Excellency proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer. He said he had no intention of entering into discussion on the paper as he was not sufficiently learned on the subject. Dr. Pieris had read a paper which they thoroughly understood, and appreciated. He had proved that the Jaffna District was a gold mine for archæological research as well as for antiquities, which had been discovered from time to time. He was interested that Dr. Pieris's own son should have picked up from the ground what has proved a valuable contribution to the collection; Dr. Pieris had told them it was quite perfect. The ancient manufactory of glass was of great interest, and he did not know and was sure many there present were not aware that a glass manufactory had existed so early. Government had been very modest in helping Dr. Pieris in his research work, but the lecturer had done much with the little provision made for him. However, Dr. Pieris had only to mention what he wanted and His Excellency would see that he got his expenses. He knew Dr. Pieris would continue his researches in Archæology.

Mr. F. Lewis seconded the vote of thanks.

5. Dr. A. Nell supported. He said that Dr. Pieris and his son, Paul, were extremely fortunate in finding coins at Vallipuram in the sand dunes, where Dr. Paul and himself had tramped many a mile and failed to discover anything except the points of the compass, and the bearings of the sand dunes. He put it forward as a conjecture that the character of the coins in the collection were South Indian and Dravidian so exclusively, except for a very few, that one must suppose the Buddhists were Tamil Buddhists—people of South India. As regards the failure to find any Dutch coins of value, the Dutch probably took care not to lose anything of value and the coins they left behind were of a short period, whereas the Tamil coins are the collections of several centuries.

6. Sir P. Arunáhalam moved a vote of thanks to H. E. the Governor and this was carried with acclamation.

7. The articles referred to in the paper were then exhibited and inspected by those present. In addition some glazed bricks from Negombo were shown by Dr. A. Nell. The bricks possessed shining surfaces as if coated with a vitreous selenium indicating the presence of silicates in the sand, which apparently was suitable for glass making.



## COUNCIL MEETING

Colombo Museum, November 13, 1919

## Present:

Sir Ponnambalam Arunachalam, Kt., M.A.,  
President, in the Chair.

Dr. P. E. Pieris, Litt.D., C.C.S., Vice-President.

Mr. Simon de Silva, J.P., Gate Mudaliyar. } Mr. F. Lewis, F.L.S.

,, A. Mendis Gunasekara, Mudaliyar. } Dr. S. C. Paul, M.D.

,, C. W. Horsfall. } Mr. E. W. Perera.

Mr. C. H. Collins, B.A., C.C.S. } Honorary Secretaries.  
,, Gerard A. Joseph, C.C.S. }

## Business:

1. Read and confirmed minutes of the last Council Meeting held on the 11th August, 1919.

2. Considered and passed the election of the following new members:—

(a) Peter Mary Alysius Corea: } C. H. Collins.  
recommended by } S. Vythenathan.

(b) John Jones Coon: recom- } C. H. Collins.  
mended by } Gerard A. Joseph.

(c) George Edwin de Livera: } Gerard A. Joseph.  
recommended by } C. H. Collins.

3. Considered the appointment of an Honorary Secretary in place of Mr. C. H. Collins, who was going from Ceylon on leave.

Resolved that Mr. Codrington be asked to accept the office of Honorary Secretary.

4. Laid on the table report of the sub-Committee on the paper entitled "Sinhalese Proverbs," by Mr. J. G. C. Mendis.

Decided to ask Mr. Mendis to give an address on the proverbs omitting all those already published in English in the Society's Journal and that copies of the report be sent to him for his guidance.

5. Laid on the table proof of next issue of the Journal.

6. Considered agenda for the next General Meeting.

Resolved that Mr. Codrington be asked to summarize the paper on Major Davie and to read it at a General Meeting.

7. Resolved that a Committee consisting of Dr. Nell and Mr. E. W. Perera be appointed to consider what steps should be taken with reference to the obtaining of Chinese Records pertaining to Ceylon not yet translated.

EXTRACTS RELATING TO CEYLON FROM THE  
DAG-REGISTER, BATAVIA, No. 1673.\*

COMPILED BY F. H. DE VOS.

## 10th January, 1673.

It was resolved to allow the French officers, who had come from Ceylon and were in numbers on the ships, to come ashore and to put them in the separate shed erected for the purpose in the hospital.

## 26th January, 1673.

Towards evening there arrived here, straight from Ceylon, the hooker "de Pitoor," by which there came a letter from the Superintendent *Ryckloff van Goens* (senior) and Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council, dated Colombo, 25th December, 1672, relating the loss of the ship "de Meyboom," cunningly captured by the English, which being seen by the Commissaris *Willem Volger* brought the ships "Pouleron" and "Nieuwenhaven" to Colombo.

## 28th March, 1673.

After considering the subject of Ceylon, on the proposition of the Superintendent *van Goens* it was resolved to separate the city of Nagapatnam from the Coromandel government and in future to place it under the jurisdiction of Ceylon.

## 13th October, 1673.

*Lourens Cordero*, a Sinhalese slave condemned to be hanged, for fleeing and causing others to flee, to Bantam.

## 7th January, 1674.

There arrived from the Cape the ship "Goudrink" with good news of the victory of our fleet against those of England and France on the 7th and 14th June, 1673, and the "Berg-Eend" was sent with this good news to Ceylon.

\* Continued from Vol. XXVI., No. 71, page 198.



**15th January, 1674.**

At noon there came here with the Commandeur *Cornelis van Quaelberg* from Ceylon the ships "Damiate," "Breederode" and "Iselsteyn." There came by these ships, *inter alia*, a letter of recommendation of the English prisoner of war, Vice-Admiral *Jonathan Haddi*, by the Superintendent *van Goens* to His Excellency, dated Colombo, 26th November.

**30th June, 1674.**

*Nicolaas* of Colombo....., all three slaves of *Jacob Overduyn*, in that they created a great disturbance on the high road at night, and being warned by the neighbours to be quiet, thought fit to abuse them, calling them Dutch dogs, thieves, scoundrels, whores, etc., were lashed, branded and put in chains for one year.

**19th November, 1674.**

*Elizabeth Abbema*, wife of the Governor General, dies aged 36 years and 11 days, having been married to His Excellency 10 years and 3 months.

**20th November, 1674.**

Burial of *Elizabeth Abbema* in the Groote Kerk in the burial vault of her mother. There were present at the funeral, among others, the Governor General *Jan Maatzuyker*, *Sybrand Abbema* her brother, *Andries Bogaert* her brother-in-law.

**10th December, 1674.**

There arrived early in the morning from the West Coast of Sumatra the ship "de Vlieg".....with letters relating how the hooker "de Lyster" with *Pieter Vertang* from Ceylon arrived there on the 4th July and sailed hither on the 16th with letters from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council, dated 6th May: also a letter of thanks for his promotion from the opperkoopman *Willem van der Molen* from the Ceylon fleet at Malabar, dated 30th January, 1674.

**5th January, 1675.**

About evening there arrived at this port the ship "Caltenburgh" from the Coromandel Coast by which also arrived *Lourens Pit* (junior) late dissave of Matara in the Island of Ceylon.....

**24th January, 1675.**

About midday the three ships of war: "Hellevoetsluys," "Tulpenburgh," and "Outshoorn" arrived here with the opperkoopman and Commandant of Negapatnam, bringing various letters, dated 4th December, from the Superintendent and Governor *van Goens* to His Excellency.....

There was also received from the Commandeur *Joan Bax* and Council at Galle a short letter, dated 6th December, mentioning, as does the letter of the Superintendent, the expedition of Governor *van Goens* (junior) to the highlands of Colombo and Galle against the Sinhalese enemy, where already an encounter favourable to us has taken place and that everything was well with the lands of Galle and Matara.

The letters from *van Goens* contained some papers relating to the case of the skipper *Geert Symons van Warden*: also a letter from the Ceylon fiscal *Edmond van Sterrevelt* from Colombo to the Chief Government.

**1st June, 1675.**

About evening there was received, through a Javanese fisherman, from the Superintendent *Ryckloff van Goens*, a letter of advice written on board the "Wapen van Middelburgh," which left Galle on the 16th April. *Heer van Goens* intended to arrive at the port next day at noon (2nd June).

The letters from Ceylon consisted of a letter from the Superintendent *van Goens*, from the ship the "Wapen van Middelburgh," dated 30th April, to which was annexed a memoir for Governor *van Goens* (junior) and Council at Galle, dated 12th April.



**16th July, 1675.**

Early in the morning there arrived, direct from Ceylon, the ship "de Loery," bringing a letter from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council of Colombo, accompanied by various annexures of the 6th June, also a short annexure from the Commandeur *Joan Bax* and Council of Galle, dated 9th June, referring, *inter alia*, to the newly appeared Ceylon heir apparent of Matale, to which title there have been many pretenders, who were however caused to be put to death by the King of Kandy in the year 16..... But this man had given many proofs of his rights and had a following of many thousand men who were now at Colombo, maintained at the expense of the Company.....

**23rd July, 1675.**

The advices from the two last named ships ("Hen-drik Maurits" and "America") were dated August 1674, and the letter of Governor *Isbrand Goske* (Cape) relates the appointment of *Joan Bax* (present Com-mandeur of the City and Lands of Galle) as Governor of the Cape.

**29th August, 1675.**

There left this port for Ceylon the ship "Sparendam," bound for Galle, to take the newly elected Governor *Joan Bax* to the Cape.

**15th October, 1675.**

Predikants *David Fernie* of Bergen-op-Zoom and *Lucas Bos* of Cuylenburg, appointed to Ceylon.

**11th November, 1675.**

The yacht "de Flaman" arrived in the afternoon from Persia by way of Ceylon bringing a letter from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council of Colombo to His Excellency, dated 11th October, with various annexures, relating the arrival of a large force of the King's Sinhalese, from all parts of the island, especially in the lands of Matara, and that with 16 to 20 thousand men under the Dissave of Uva, they had cap-

ured the Company's fort called Bibligamme and taken 70 Nederlanders as prisoners to Kandy. But according to rumour and a letter from these unfortunate prisoners to the Governor, dated 29th August, they were well treated.

**3rd December, 1675.**

Resolved in Council to employ the Predikant *Marcus Masius* in Ceylon.

**24th December, 1675.**

About evening there arrived the yacht "de Zyp" from Persia by way of Ceylon bringing the original letter from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council of Colombo to His Excellency, dated 5th November, also a letter from *Willem van der Molen* and Council of Galle, dated 8th November.

The sudden fury of the high land Sinhalese had abated and they had retreated up-country, and, according to the reports of some lascoreens, our poor imprisoned soldiers of Bibligamme with *Raja Singa* at his court, were well treated.

**31st December, 1675.**

Sadyk of Bantam, a Javanese, residing on the side of Ankee, in that he endeavoured to take 3 slaves to Tangerang, was whipped, branded and cast in chains for 50 years to work at the common works in Ceylon.

**23rd March, 1676.**

Early in the morning there arrived the yacht "de Schelvisch" direct from Ceylon having.....and bringing a letter to His Excellency here from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council at Colombo, dated 13th February, with an appendix dated 14th February, and a letter from the Council at Galle, dated 17th February, also two copies of letters, written by the said Governor and Council on the 28th December, 1675, to the Directors.....relating, *inter alia*, how the first pretender-prince of Matale, sent back last August from here to Ceylon in the "Sparendam," was



heard against the newly appointed Matale pretender and found to be a deceiver and vagabond, being unable to supply any information to questions put, whereupon the newly appointed prince was declared to be the lawful prince: also how the famous Singalese dissave *Tumeron* (*Tennekoon*) one of the highest chiefs of *Raja Singa* (who, last year, helped our men to capture the fort Bibli-gamme) through fear that the tyrannical King would kill him, had, to save his life, come with a small following from the Four and Seven Corles to Colombo under the Company, with further information that his companion, the General and dissave of Uva, was not so lucky, but was, on the orders of *Raja Singa*, captured and kept in close confinement, which might cause a change in the affairs of *Raja Singa*, so that the condition of the people seems to be in a muddle.....Further the Commandeur *Jacob Lobs* informs His Excellency of his prolonged voyage from the Fatherland and arrival in Ceylon.

#### 25th May, 1676.

About evening there returned to this port from Surat, by way of Ceylon, the ship of war "Pouleron." This ship touched at Colombo and delivered some Surat rupees, receipt of which is acknowledged by the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior).....and a letter accompanied by various Ceylon papers and documents from which it appears that by the re-conquest of the posts Sitavaque and Denuagie, outside Colombo and Negombo, many natives who had again come under our rule, had again gone further inland, which roused such fear in *Raja Singa*, that he, not trusting his forces, had summoned them farther up from Uva and had imprisoned many of his principal dissaves and chiefs. Further, the said *Raja Singa*, seeing that his plans, arranged with the French in 1672, had not succeeded, had last year sent with some men an ola to the Portuguese asking them to help him in driving the Dutch away from Ceylon, but these men were captured close to Trincomalee in a boat by the sloeps of the Company and the letter lost,

which the refugee now under us, the dissave *Timmecon* (*Tennekoon*) has related with every appearance of truth. Also there arrived here in the ship "Pouleron," Captain *Abraham Daniel van Renesse* bringing a letter from the Commandeur *Hendrik van Rheede*.

#### 29th May, 1676.

There arrived from the Fatherland the new ship "Silversteyn" bringing news that the Ceylon return ships "Beemster" and "Spanbroeck" had arrived there (Cape) on the 13th March and had, in company with the whole fleet of Heer *Nicolaas Verburgh*, sailed for the Fatherland on the 18th.

*Albert Cornelissen Rotgans* of Amsterdam, sailor on board the ship "Tulpenburg," as he allowed his ship to "out run" to Ceylon and signed a false certificate, was whipped, condemned to stand in the pillory for three hours with a letter on his breast, written on it *Falsaris*, cast in chains for three years to work at the common works without salary and to remain banished.

#### 1st August, 1676.

After midday the yacht "de Flaman" returned direct from Ceylon bringing a letter, with various annexures, from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council at Colombo, dated.....May, addressed to His Excellency, with an annexure from the Commandeur *Pieter de Graeuwe* and Council of Galle, dated.....May, also another short letter from the dissave *Willem van der Moolen*, from Belligam, dated.....May, referring to various matters in that disturbed place, and, among other things, that (according to the report of some natives) *Raja Singa* had consulted his chiefs as to whether it was best for them to make peace with the Dutch or to wage war against them and that they had so far decided on the latter. There was also received from the predikant *Simon Kat* at Colombo a private letter, dated 17th May, asking for an increase of salary.



**28th September, 1676.**

There arrived from Persia by way of Ceylon the ship "Hasenberg," bringing a letter from Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council of Colombo, dated 10th July and a supplementary letter dated 11th July, a letter from the Commandeur *Pieter de Graeuwe* and Council of Galle dated July, all accompanied by various reports and annexures, among them a letter from the Commandeur *Jan Blommert* and Council of Baticalo, dated 5th July.

It appears from the Ceylon reports that the French of Coromandel had already built a fine fort at Pondicherry and had cut off, with a large pirate boat, all trade between the Moors and Ceylon. The Emperor *Raja Singa* seemed to have toned down a bit and after the despatch to him of a letter from the Governor with the present of a Cape lion, it is announced far and wide, that he had promised to release and send back all the imprisoned Hollanders and in future leave the Hollanders in peace, which the Company fervently hopes will be the case.

**16th November, 1676.**

In the evening there arrived from Coromandel the Governor *Antonio Pavilion*, bringing with him the following letters.....a letter from the Commandeur *Laurens Pyl* and Council at Jaffna, dated 14th September, 1676, to His Excellency....., a letter from the Commandeur *Jan Blommert* and Council of Trincomalee to His Excellency, dated 15th June.

At Jaffna, in consequence of the new land toambo to relieve the poor people of the burdens and rapacity of the mayoraals, there was such an uproar, that most of the foremost of them went over from the provinces Timmoraetchie and Wamoraetche to *Caylo Wanny*, alleging that they would not return unless the work of the toambo was stopped, and that in the meantime they would, with the help of the Wannias and some up-country Sinhalese, invade the lands of Jaffna, which they had already from time to time begun to do, but the necessary measures will be taken to prevent this.

**14th January, 1677.**

The ship "'t Huys te Bergen" arrived from Ceylon with a long letter and connected papers from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council at Colombo, dated 5th December, 1676, to His Excellency, also a short letter from the Commandeur *Jacob Lobs*, written on his departure to Cochin, dated 26th October.

Two of our poor prisoners of Bibligamme had fled to Galle through untrodden paths from their place of detention, Parnegamme, relating that all the other Dutchmen there were in great straits and wretchedly treated, without, up till now, appearing before the King, which King *Raja Singa*, according to the report of three refugee appohamies, still often committed many tyrannical acts, with the result that many courtiers, to save their lives, had to flee here and there, and some mostly came to Colombo to the pretended Prince of Matale.

The revolted Mayoraals of the Wannias and various chiefs in the provinces of Jaffna, by reason of their dissatisfaction with the new land toambo, were again restored to order, and, through the zeal of Commandeur *Pyl*, with a show of force and severe punishment of 6 murderers, everything is quiet now and most of the fugitive mayoraals, having obtained pardon, have gone back to their lands, except that these provinces, with the shutting up of some redouts, cannot be so easily attacked.

*Caylo Wanny*, who has twice openly injured the Company as an enemy and traitor, deserves severe punishment and he will get it in good time.

Otherwise everything was quiet in the whole of Ceylon and the highways so clear that news could be received at Colombo in 12 to 14 days even from the most distant parts.

**30th January, 1677.**

Considered at an extraordinary meeting of the Council of India the question of the reduction of the garrison of 1,000 men there (Ceylon).



**22nd April, 1677.**

Towards evening there arrived from the island of Ceylon the ship "Zuydpolsbroek" and with it the retired Commandeur (of Jaffna) *Jorefas Vos*, bringing a long letter from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council of Colombo to His Excellency, dated 5th March last, with its annexures: a letter from the said Governor sent on the 18th January by the ensign *Johannes de Buquoy*, with a lion to *Raja Singa*, seeking his friendship and speedy release of our poor imprisoned, which seemed hopeful at the time of his departure, but he was afterwards, from time to time, detained on the way without as yet appearing at Court.

After a visit to the pearl banks of Tutucorin and Manaar it was decided that there should be no fishery for quite a long time.

Of the imprisoned Lieutenant-Dissave *Blicklant* it was reported that he, with 7 or 8 of our Bibligamme prisoners, had escaped from the Kandyan court or their place of detention, Parnegamme, and that, on *Raja's* order, a search party was sent out to find them so that there was a doubt as to their arrival and safety, although orders were given to cruise about the coasts and our posts, which appears more fully in the letter book and letter to *Raja Singa* and further from the letter of the Commandeur *Pieter de Graeuwe* and Council of Galle, dated 11th March, to His Excellency.

**12th May, 1677.**

There arrived from the Fatherland, by way of the Cape, the ship "Sumatra," bringing from Ceylon the following news:—

The Governor *van Goens* had gone on a trip to Jaffna by way of Calpentyn and Manaar.

The Lieutenant-Dissave *Blicklant*, taken prisoner at Biblegamme and some Hollanders, meaning to escape from their place of detention, Parnegamme, were seized by the Dissaves sent out by *Raja Singa* and taken to

their previous station, but were now, so it is said, better treated by *Raja Singa* than before.

Shortly after this incident the Dissave of Saffragam, with about 500 lascoreens, came to the Mende and Attacalan corles, within the jurisdiction of Galle, and made the inhabitants of these provinces appear before him on a verbal pretext that such were the orders of the King, against which it was resolved by the Commandeur *de Graeuwe* to enter a friendly protest till their departure, in case of refusal to deal with them with force.

**26th July, 1677.**

In the evening, after prayers, there arrived here the skipper of the ship the "Huys te Merwe," coming from Surat by way of Ceylon, bringing a case of various letters, among them, a letter from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council, dated Colombo, 8th June, to His Excellency, and a later letter dated 11th June, accompanied by letters of the Commandeur *Pieter de Graeuwe* and Council, dated Galle, 18th June, with other documents relating to that Government, containing, *inter alia*, the following news:—The up-country Dissave of Saffragam, *Dawatte Moltjaar* (referred to above under 12th May), who crossed the Waluwe river with a large force and came to the Mende Attacalan and Naudum corles on the verbal and written pretext that they were sent there by *Raja Singa*, without however proving the same to us, and lorded over the people under the rule of the Company, were pursued by our lascoreens and a good force of Dutch soldiers from the Galle lands, who attacked them vigorously and put them to flight with the loss of many men, they retiring so far that they could not be farther pursued over the hills.

Whilst these disturbances were going on, the pretender Prince of Matale, who, since the year 1675 had, at Colombo, voluntarily put himself under the protection of the Company and was treated with honour (with the prospect of gaining some advantage after *Raja's* death), on the night of the 5th May stealthily crept out of the



city gate without any means of getting him back. But *Raja Singa's* cunning emissaries had better luck, for they seized this fugitive close to the river of Chilaw and took him up to Kandy before *Raja Singa* where, it is reported, he was cut in four pieces and sent as a spectacle to all parts of the low country.

#### 26th August, 1677.

Their honours deliberated for many days over Ceylon matters, not only about a treaty of peace with *Raja Singa* to the relief of the Company from its many burdens, but also about other matters, among others, the request of the adigaar of Matara, *Don Casper Sinnewirad Modeljaar*.

#### 4th September, 1677.

Further their honours conferred about Ceylon matters, and it was finally resolved to delay the sending of a letter to *Raja Singa*, but to allow the treaty to be made between him and the Governor.

#### 9th November, 1677.

There arrived from Ceylon the ship "Macassar," bringing a letter from the Commandeur *Laurens Pyl* and Council of Jaffna, dated 9th September, 1677.

The new land tombo was put into force and it was found that the Company would profit yearly from the head money to the extent of fully 75,000 guelders and the net profits this year at Jaffna amounted to 55,716 florins.

The watch posts and dependent lands in the Provinces were now on a good basis, but the warned but stubborn *Cayla Wannia* has not appeared as yet to the summons, but with the reduction of the military there, it seemed that there was little chance of bringing him to book.

#### 30th November, 1677.

There returned here from Ceylon the ship "Pouleron," bringing a letter from the Governor *Ryckloff van Goens* (junior) and Council, dated Colombo, 4th

November, together with two letters written by him on His Excellency's orders, to the King *Raja Singa* and an answer by the Kandyan chiefs to Captain *Wanderpoel* at Colombo.....and the opperkoopman *Willem van der Moolen*, Commandeur *Salomon Lescage* and Commandant *Marten Huysman* have each, by separate letters to His Excellency, applied for the post of Commandeur of Galle rendered vacant by the death of the Commandeur *Pieter de Graeuwe* on the 14th August.

It also appeared from the aforesaid letter that the Governor *van Goens* and Council had no hopes of entering into a treaty of peace with *Raja Singa* by quitting, as proposed, various provinces, and they were somewhat surprised at the order newly sent here, as, according to various reports, *Raja Singa* appeared to be, as before, none other than a great tyrant, who daily caused many people to be killed and the principal families to be exterminated, necessitating the appointment of the lowest people to the highest posts, which is confirmed by the report of one of our escaped Bibligamme prisoners, who further reported that the Lieutenant *Blicklant* and most of the other prisoners were still alive, but very miserably treated.

Our ambassador *Buquoy*, sent in the beginning of this year from Colombo to Kandy with the young lion, was still held up at Moeliogodde without being able to obtain permission to make any progress with his embassy to His Majesty, which is reported will not take place before the up-country Sinhalese shall have heard the lion crow like a cock, because *Raja Singa* imagines that it has a crown on its head and is endowed with the power of crowing instead of roaring as a king of beasts should naturally be. Whether this is true or will be, time will show, but some people have strange misgivings. However the letter of the courtiers, this time bearing the King's seal, shows that *Raja Singa* was always, as still he is, very well disposed towards the Hollanders if they would deal with him fairly and recognize him as the Sovereign Emperor of that far-famed island.



## NOTES AND QUERIES

### A SINHALESE EMBASSY TO EGYPT

By H. W. CODRINGTON

In M. Quatremère's "Histoire des Sultans Mamlouks," translated from Maqrízí, under the reign of al-Manşúr Sayfu'd-dín Qaláún, appears the following account of an embassy from Ceylon (Vol.II., Part I., pp. 59, 60):—

"Le quatorzième jour de ce mois [Muharram, A.H. 682=April, A.D. 1283], on reçut des ambassadeurs envoyés par le souverain du pays de Ceylan, qui fait partie des Indes. Ce prince se nommait Abou-Nekbah-Lebabah. Ils étaient porteurs d'une boîte d'or, qui avait trois doigts de largeur, et une longueur d'une demi-coudée. Dans l'intérieur, se trouvait quelque chose de couleur verte, qui ressemblait à des feuilles de palmier, et qui présentait des lignes écrites dans un caractère que personne, au Caire, ne put lire. On interrogea les députés, et, d'après leur réponse, cette lettre contenait des formules de salutation et d'amitié. Le prince déclarait qu'il avait renoncé a son alliance avec le souverain du Yemen, pour s'attacher uniquement à entretenir avec le sultan des liaisons d'attachement; et désirait recevoir un ambassadeur. Il annonçait qu'il avait en sa possession quantité d'objets dont il faisait l' énumération, tels que des éléphants, des pierreries, des denrées de prix de tout genre; qu'il avait préparé un présent pour être offert au sultan; que le royaume de Ceylan renfermait vingt-sept forteresses; qu'il contenait des mines de pierreries, de rubis; et que les trésors du souverain regorgeaient de pierres précieuses."

A further account of this embassy is to be found in M.S. de S. Germ. 118 (2) translated in Quatremère's "Mémoires sur l'Égypte," Vol. II., p. 284. The ambassador to the court of Egypt from the prince of Ceylon, king of India, was al-Háj Abú'Uthmán, who was accompanied by several others. According to them they embarked in a Ceylon vessel and having touched at this Island came to the port of Hormuz, where they stayed ten days. They then went up the Persian Gulf, and passing Başrah and Wásiţ came to Bagdad, then under the Persian Mongols. The ambassador on being admitted into the Sultan's presence presented a letter, which he said had been written by his master's hand. It was enclosed in a gold box and wrapped up in stuff resembling *túz* (the inner bark of a tree), which was made, it was said, from the bark of a palm. As no one could be found to read the letter, its contents were explained by the ambassador as follows:

"Ceylon is Egypt and Egypt is Ceylon. I desire that an Egyptian ambassador accompany mine on his return and that another be sent to reside in the town of Aden. I possess a prodigious quantity of pearls and precious stones of every kind. I have vessels, elephants, muslins, and other stuffs, wood of *baqam* (Brazil wood), cinnamon, and all the objects of commerce, which are brought to you by the banian merchants. My kingdom produces trees, the wood of which is fit for making spears. If the Sultan asks me for twenty vessels yearly, I shall be in a position to supply them. Further, the merchants of his dominions can with all freedom come to trade in my kingdom. I have received an ambassador of the prince of the Yemen, who is come on the part of his master to make me proposals of alliance. But I have sent him away through my affection for the Sultan. I possess twenty seven castles, of which the treasuries are filled with precious stones of all kinds. The pearl



fisheries are part of my dominions, and all that is taken therefrom belongs to me."

The Sultan covered the ambassador with honours and dismissed him with a letter for his master.

The king of the Yemen was Yúsuf ibn 'Umar, who reigned at Aden from A.D. 1249 to 1295. Who was "Abou-Nekbah-Lebabah," sovereign of Ceylon?

Unfortunately I have been unable to get at the Arabic text of Maqrízi. But if we remember that in Arabic writing the vowels are usually not expressed and that the *waw* is really a consonant, and if we take the letter A in Quatremère as representing *álif*, we find that "Abou-Nekbah" is a fair version of "Bhuvaneka Bá" or "Bhuvaneka Báhu": *Abú* is a common part of Arabic names and the initial *álif* would easily creep into the text in copying. Calculating from the year 1824 after the attainment to Buddhahood or A.D. 1235-6 as that of the accession of Parákrama Báhu II., and allowing him the full reign of 35 years, we must conclude that Vijaya Báhu IV. came to the throne about 1270/1, and Bhuvanéka Báhu I. about 1272/3, his reign ending in 1283 or 1284. But the "Lebabah" is puzzling. I would suggest tentatively that the two first letters *lám bé* be read *bé yé*. We have only to add a dot to turn *bé* into *yé*, and the restoration of the first letter is supported by a corruption in Rasídu'd-dín's text of the name "Sundar Bandi" (Sundara Páñdya) into "Sundar Ladi." The word as thus amended, in the absence of vowel marks, would read "b-yábáh." Now there is no P in Arabic and on the analogy of "Abou-Nekbah" we could read the last three Arabic letters as the equivalent of *báhu* or *páhu*. Accordingly the restoration of the original text now suggested is "bi-Yábáhu," that is "at Yápahu." This place actually was the seat of the court of Bhuvanéka Báhu I., and the name of the capital may have been joined to that of the sovereign through a misunderstanding at Cairo.

The proposed alliance appears to have been somewhat one-sided. It may perhaps be surmised that the Sinhalese king wished to strengthen himself against the threatened aggression of the Páñdyans. Bhuvanéka Báhu's death perhaps occurred before the return of the embassy, and, if the account in *Mahāvamsa* XC., 43-47, be in its correct chronological position, seems to have been the signal for the great incursion of the minister Árya Chakravarti, who carried off the Tooth Relic and presented it to his master Kulaśekhara Páñdya.

Since writing this note I find that Mr. C. E. Corea has also identified "Abou-Nekbah-Lebabah" with Bhuvaneka Báhu I. in Vol. XXIII., No. 67, p. 245 of the Journal. The date A.D. 1304, there given for the embassy, is erroneous.

#### ROBERT ANDREWS

With reference to my account of Robert Andrews, prefixed to the Diary of his Embassy to Kandy in 1795 [Journal R.A.S. (C.B.), Vol. XXVI., p. 49], Mr. J. J. Cotton, M.C.S., writes: "There is nothing impossible in Andrews having entered the service as a boy of 15; that was the usual age in those days both for civilian writers and military cadets. Robert Andrews, who was in 1768 Member of the Council of the Governor was probably his father. And he seems to have had sisters or daughters, for on June 18th, 1795, Henry Taylor, H.E.I.C.S., married at Madras Miss Charlotte Andrews, and in April, 1813, Edward Atkinson, H.E.I.C.S., Miss Sarah Andrews. This Atkinson was, in 1798, Commissary of Provisions at Colombo. So it will be seen that the Andrews were an out-and-out civilian family. I cannot find any Madras record of the marriage of Lieutenant Brown to Miss Ritso. John Jervis, H.E.I.C.S., married at Madras on June 23rd, 1795, Miss Eliza Ritso. Edward Ritso was at that time a Lieutenant in the 73rd Foot."



(See page 51 for mention of "his sister, Miss Andrews," and page 61 for a reference to Miss Ritso and Lieut. Brown.)

J. P. L.

### A PROBABLE ORIGIN OF THE NAME KUSHṬHARĀJAGALA

There are many instances in Ceylon where legends have been invented to account for the name of a place or an individual. The most common legend connected with Kushṭharājagala in Weligama is that the figure carved on the rock represents a king who was cured of a (*Kushṭha*) skin disease by the use of the coconut as a medicine. A story given in a paper published in the *United Empire*\* throws some light on a probable true origin of Kushṭharāja. It is known that one of the first coconut plantations during the time of the Sinhalese kings was made at Weligama and Kushṭharāja appears to be nothing more than Kusiraja, the titular deity of the coconut in Travancore. The following is the passage referred to:—

"There is a curious legend about the origin of the tree (coconut tree). Hindu tradition says that Kusi Raja worshipped a supreme deity and made no offerings to inferior gods. In time he became almost equal to these inferior gods and accomplished many wonders. Amongst other things he made many of the grains. At last he desired to make a human being superior to any ordinary mortal. He completed its head but the other demi-gods became so alarmed that they persuaded him to cease his work. The head he had made was transformed into a coconut tree, henceforth designed to be one of the most useful trees."

W. A. DE SILVA.

\* *Travancore*, by E. Sinclair.

*United Empire*, Vol. VII., (New Series) No. 10, October, 1916. The Royal Colonial Institute Journal.

### SINHALESE OCCUPATION OF THE JAFFNA PENINSULA

I have only just had an opportunity of seeing Dr. P. E. Pieris's paper on "Nāgadipa," published in *Journal R.A.S. (C.B.)*, Vol. XXVI.

I rather take exception to his description on page 20 of the present *locale* of the Chunnākam Buddha. He says: "Hidden away in the comfortable garden which the generosity of Mr. Dyke had provided for....., the Government Agent of this out-of-the-way Province, is a fine image of the Buddha." This is misleading; it gives the reader the impression that the image is poked away in the confined space of an enclosed flower-garden, close to the private residence of the Government Agent, whereas it is not in a "garden"—using that word in the sense in which it is understood in England, and not as the exact equivalent of the Sinhalese *watta* or the Tamil *toḍḍem*—but in the Old Park—accurately described as a "park"—where it has been most appropriately set up under a *bo tree*, in an open space some two or three hundred yards (perhaps more, as I speak from recollection) from the Residency. It can easily be seen and is seen to advantage. I had it placed in the Old Park on this account as well as for the sake of its security and conservation. The place of its discovery and the date are given on the inscribed stone erected at its base. What more could be done?

The same writer's attempt on page 21 to derive the Tamil *oḍai*, a pond or swamp, from the Sinhalese *goḍa*, which I always thought meant exactly the opposite, viz., high, or as Dr. Pieris himself says, "undulating" ground, seems entirely fanciful and far-fetched. On the same principle the Sinhalese "*gama*" ought to be reduced by Tamil usage to "*ama*," whereas it is represented by "*Kāmam*" and "*Kam*." This is etymology run to seed, reminding one of the late Mr. Hugh Neville's methods in philology.



The writer of the paper deserves credit for having followed the clue given by the finding, during my time as Government Agent, of the Buddha image at Chunná-kam, and carried out excavations there, which resulted in further interesting discoveries. It is a pity that he left Jaffna before he had an opportunity of adopting similar action with regard to Vallipuram, where the other Buddha image was found, and which, from my inspection of it, seemed to call for such action. I agree with Mr. J. M. Senaveratne, who was good enough to recall from oblivion Mr. Horsburgh's and my own investigations of the subject of the former occupation by the Sinhalese of the Jaffna Peninsula, that it is desirable that excavation work should, if possible, be undertaken at Vallipuram.

8th October, 1919.

J. P. LEWIS.

NOTE BY DR. PIERIS.—The image is said to be "hidden away" as it is kept in a place to which the public have no right of access. It is not suggested that the Tamil "oḍai" is derived from the Sinhalese "goḍa."

## PLATE VIII.

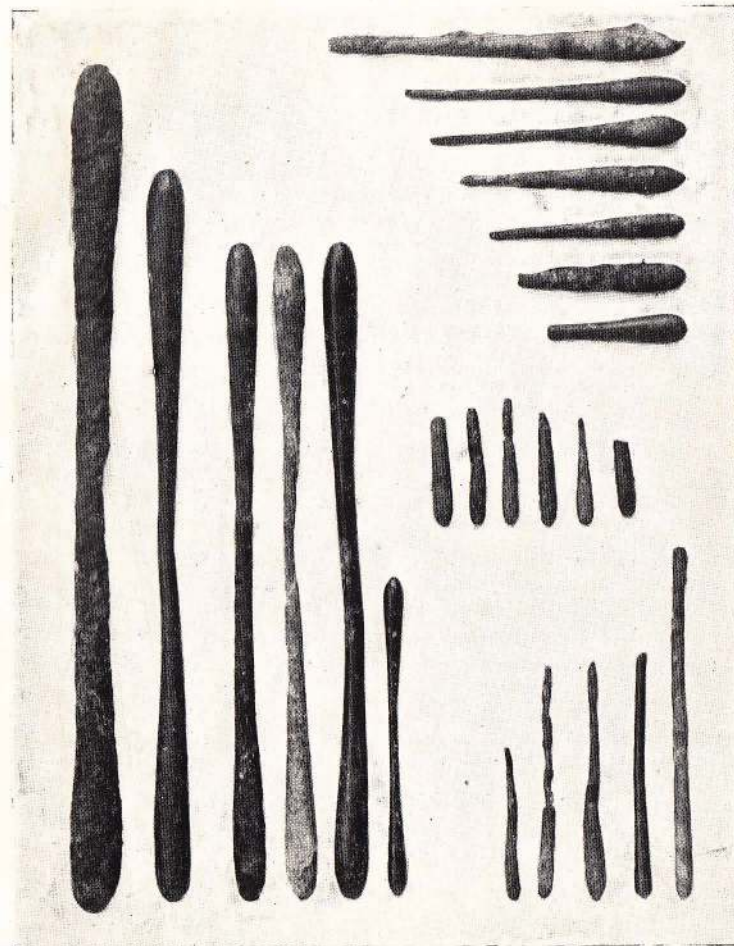


Photo by Pláté, Ltd.

Block by Surveyor General.



PLATE IX.

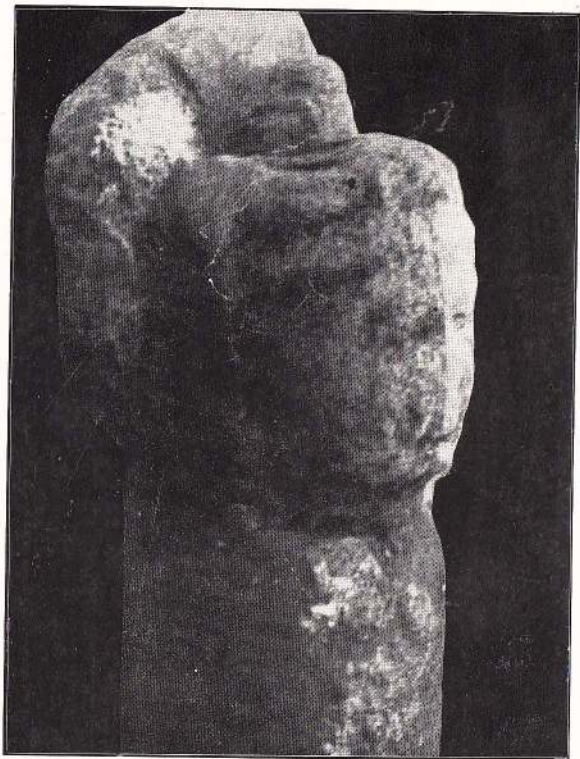


PLATE X.



*Photo by Plâté, Ltd.*

*Block by Surveyor General.*



PLATE XI.

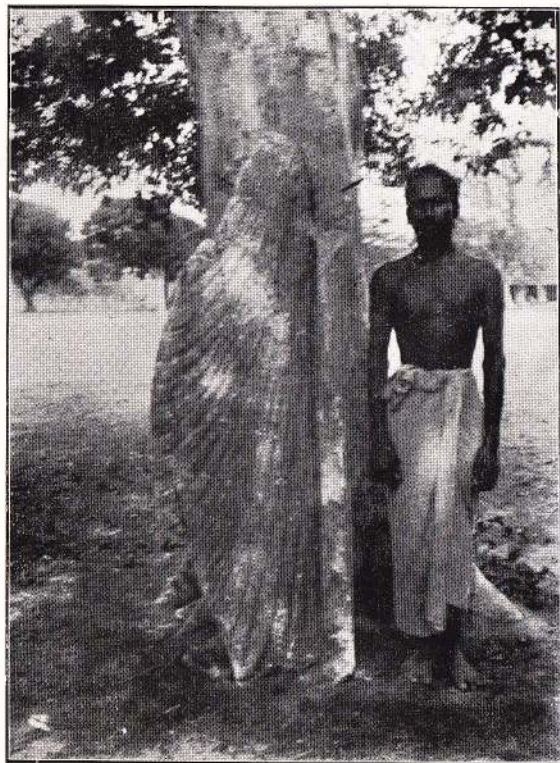


PLATE XII.

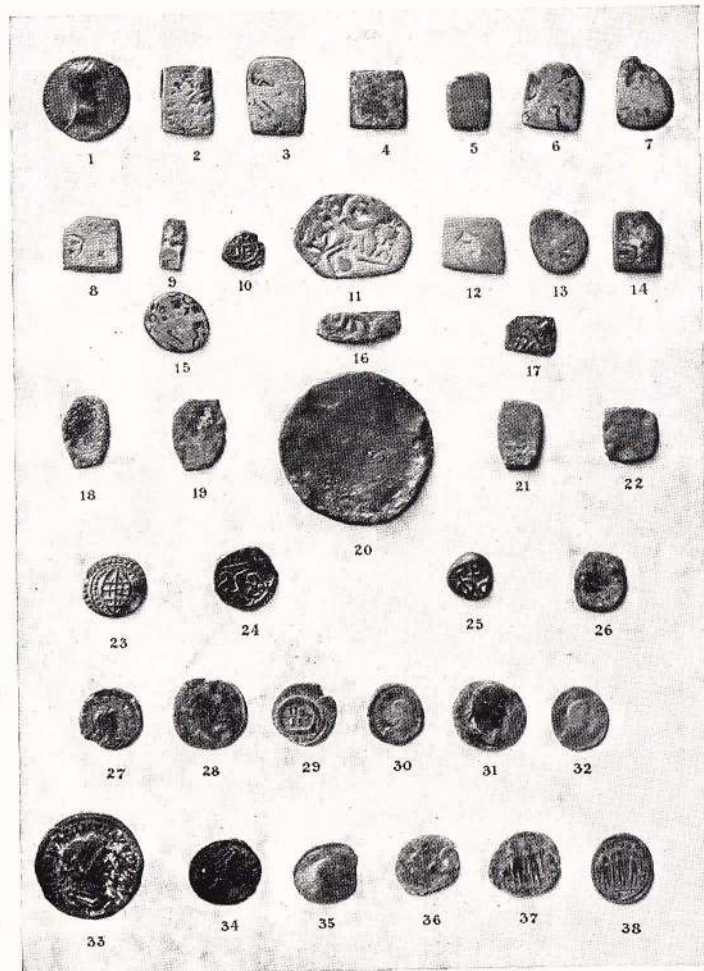


Photo by Plâté, Ltd.

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PLATE XIII.



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PLATE XIV.

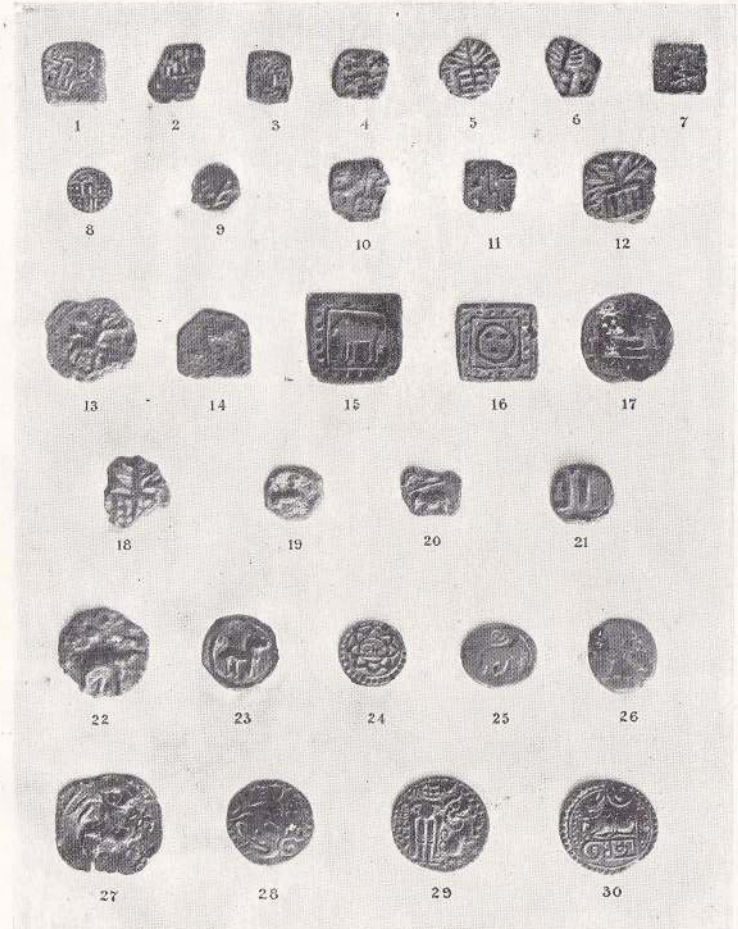


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PLATE XV.



Photo by Pláté, Ltd.

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PLATE XVI.

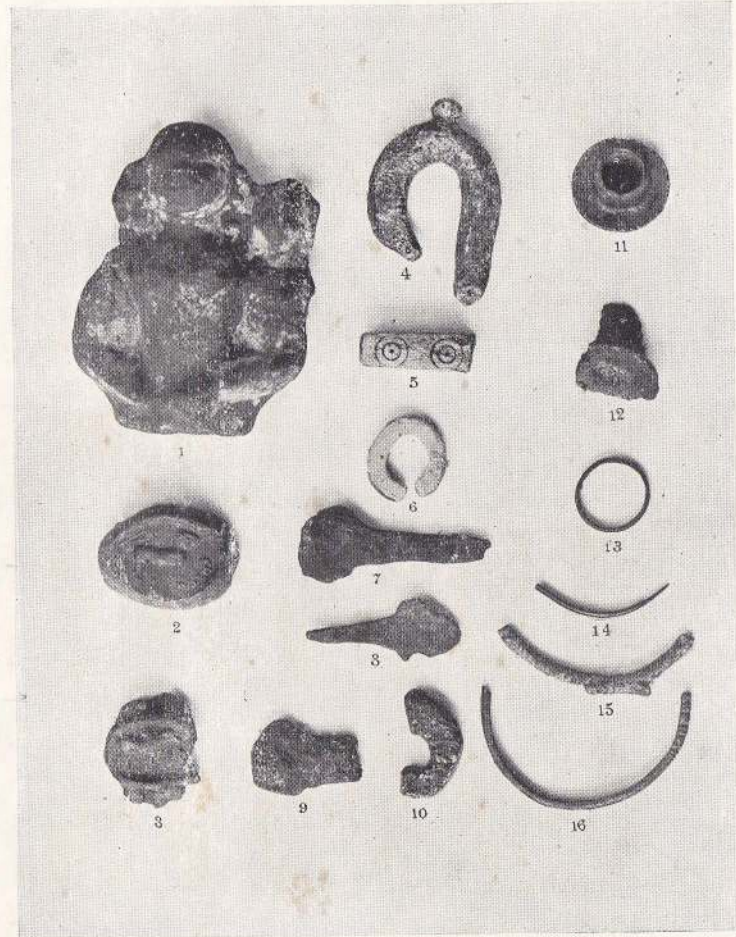


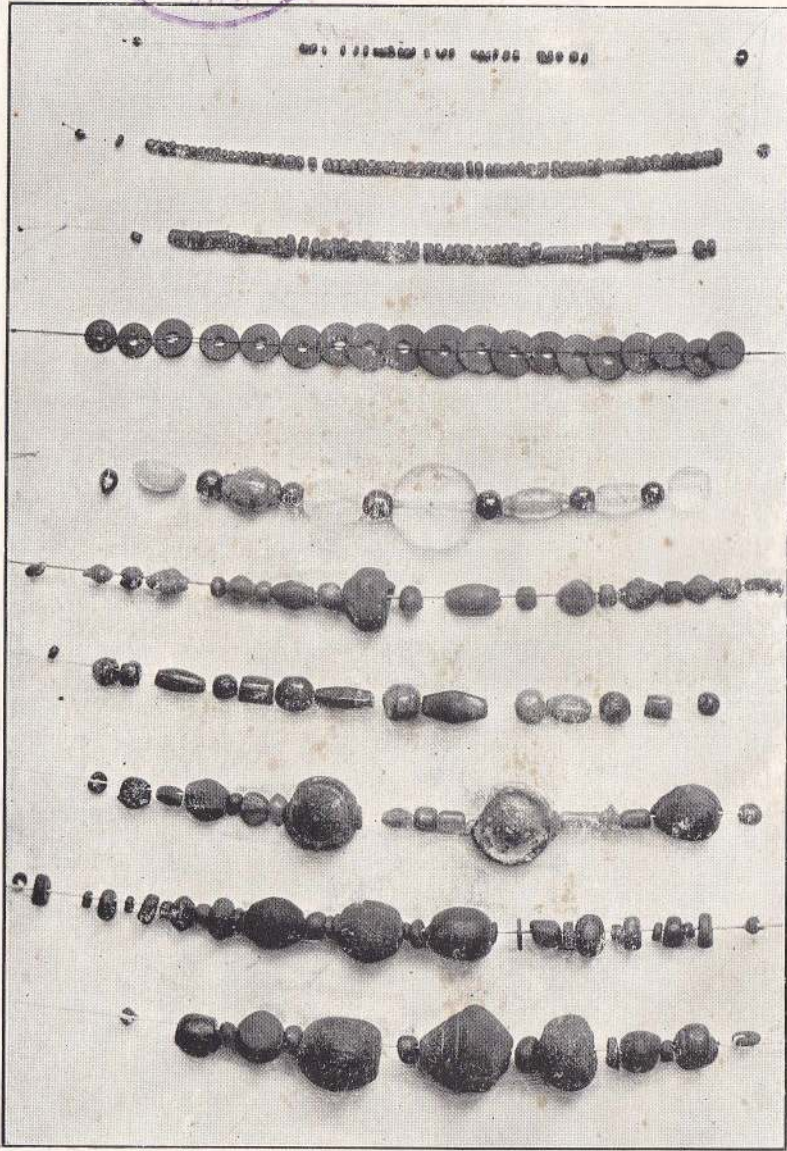
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PLATE XVII.



Noolaham Branch Library

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